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THE CAMPAIGN IN GEORGIA.

THE glorious campaign in Georgia—the most brilliant military event of the year 1864—has come to its fitting termination in the capture of the city of Savannah. SHERMAN's neat dispatch, carrying, with characteristic *finesse*, the news of the event, and the supplementary report of General FOSTER, will tell our readers the main facts of the story. SHERMAN's campaign will elevate the military reputation of the country hardly less than it has already struck consternation through the Confederacy. The London *Herald*, commenting on his march, and anticipating its failure, said—in the language of its New York correspondent:—"The name of the captor of Atlanta, 'if he fails now, will become the scoff of mankind, and 'the humiliation of the United States for all time. If 'he succeeds, it will be written on the tablet of fame, 'side by side with that of NAPOLEON and HANNIBAL. 'He will either be a XERXES or a XENOPHON."

The siege of Savannah opened with the brilliant storming of Fort McAllister on the morning of December 15th. That strong point was gained, with all its garrison, guns and stores, at the loss of only about 90 men, all in HAZEN's division of the Fifteenth corps. The enemy's loss was a little less in killed and wounded. The next work to be done was to remove the obstructions in the Ogeechee. This also was accomplished, and the fleet passed up the tortuous stream. Meanwhile, the troops were everywhere pressing their lines in towards the city. This work they prosecuted with the greatest vigor and enthusiasm. Elated with success, and confident in their leader, there instantly sprang up a generous rivalry which corps or division should first reach the doomed capital. Torpedoes, planted by the enemy, were removed by SHERMAN's device of putting the prisoners in the front, who, knowing best where the machines were buried, could be all the more useful in removing them. Had our troops received equal knowledge of their locality by the enemy's courtesy, doubtless this necessity of employing the superior information of the prisoners would not have occurred. Meanwhile, KILPATRICK's cavalry and an infantry support moved down the Savannah, Albany, and Gulf Road.

But Savannah (as it will prove with Wilmington, Mobile, Charleston, or any other city on whose defences three years have been expended), was not to be surrounded in a day. The north, west, and south sides were speedily seized by SHERMAN, and the city so far invested. But, on the east side, it was difficult to approach. The enemy had command of the river with his batteries, and had so filled the main ship channel and the south channel with piles and sunken vessels, that our fleet could not get up. Forts Jackson, Lee, and Bartow swept the east side, also, with their guns. But, above all, a wide stretch of swamps and of rice-fields, artificially and skillfully flooded, made the approach arduous. So vigorously, however, had SHERMAN begun his work, that the

commander of the city took the alarm, and evacuated it with hardly a show of defence.

On the 16th, SHERMAN saw his way through clearly enough to send a formal demand for the surrender of the city. The next day, Lieutenant-General HARDEE replied, that, as his communications were yet open, and as he was fully supplied with subsistence stores he was able to withstand a long siege, and was determined to hold the city to the last. SHERMAN now rapidly pushed forward his work. By the 19th, his base at Kingsbridge, 28 miles from Ossabaw Sound, on our right, was well established, and supplies came up freely from the fleet over a substantial corduroy road, built rapidly through the almost impassable swamp which intervened. Heavy siege guns were thus transported and fixed on the lines, and the whole city was soon in great danger. The line was said to be, by practicable roads, thirty miles long. But it must be understood that the roads went far to the rear of the investing force. SLOCUM's column held the left, as always, on the Savannah, and HOWARD the right, on the Ogeechee. The Twentieth corps was on the extreme left, with the Fourteenth on its right. The Fifteenth corps was on the extreme right, with the Seventeenth on its left. Between the Seventeenth and Fourteenth was a wide gap of swamps, and flooded rice-fields extended along a portion of our front. In the Savannah River, the upper part of HUTCHINSON's island had instantly been seized by SLOCUM on our reaching the city. But a canal divided its upper from its lower half, and the latter the enemy held. Below the island was the Union causeway, running towards Charleston.

Our heavy guns were now in position to tear the city to pieces, and our lines were closing in on the left. On the afternoon of the 20th, the enemy's iron-clads moved up the river and opened a furious fire on our left, supported by many of his batteries. Under cover of their fire, continued all night, HARDEE crossed his troops by steamboats, smaller boats and rafts to Union Causeway. The Navy Yard had been previously partially burned, and such stores as he could not take with him destroyed. The two formidable rams, *Georgia* and *Savannah*, were blown up at night. Early next morning, the 21st, SHERMAN entered the city, and received its surrender from the mayor. It was uninjured, our cannon never having been opened upon it. It was at once put in charge of provost-guards from General GEARY's division, and all the right of private property held sacred. The city was crowded to excess with people who had fled to it from the interior, and not a few Union officers, prisoners, were found and released. More than a thousand prisoners were taken from the enemy, many having been left on the lines till too late. "The captures include," says General FOSTER, on the 21st, "eight hundred prisoners, one hundred 'and fifty guns, thirteen locomotives in good order, 'one hundred and ninety cars, a large supply of am- 'munition and materials of war, three steamers, and 'thirty-three thousand bales of cotton safely stored 'in warehouses. All these valuable fruits of an al- 'most bloodless victory, have been, like Atlanta, 'fairly won. I opened communications with the 'city with my steamers to-day, taking up what tor- 'pedoes we could see, and passing safely over 'others. Arrangements are made to clear the chan- 'nel of all obstructions."

Our losses during the whole siege were less than 400. Our release of slaves, in number nearly 20,000, is to be added to the gains of the expedition, as

many of them will make good soldiers. General FOSTER's own boat was the first to go up the river, with that officer on board. It took up torpedoes on the way, and passed over others. It was a feat of no little intrepidity, and resembled the remarkable running of the blockade of Little Washington by General FOSTER when commanding in North Carolina. It is not known precisely where HARDEE now is. Our readers will remember that HATCH's brigade of FOSTER's troops was so posted as to command the Charleston Railroad with heavy guns, although the Pocotaligo Bridge was not destroyed.

We have already mentioned the departure of KILPATRICK's cavalry, with a large infantry support, and with artillery, down the Savannah, Albany and Gulf Railroad, towards the Altamaha River. The common supposition is that this column is going to release our prisoners, removed first from Andersonville to Millen, and then from Millen to a point south of Savannah, as yet unknown to us. The Altamaha is crossed by the railroad about 50 miles southwest of Savannah. About 60 miles further southwest are the adjoining towns of Waresboro' and Glenmore, where, it is conjectured, with some probability, our prisoners may now be. The enemy supposes that SHERMAN's main force will at once move on Branchville, South Carolina, an important point of junction on the railroad running from Augusta to Charleston. This move is very probable.

CAMPAIGN IN THE SHENANDOAH.

OF late, operations in the Valley have resumed such importance as once more to attract attention; and we will, therefore, in accordance with our custom, review the most prominent of recent events in that region. At the close of November, the enemy made a number of vigorous and successful raids upon our outposts, gathering up some spoils and keeping our troops in alarm. MOSBY, of course, was conspicuous in these affairs. Colonel WITCHER was busy all the month in Western Virginia, and, during his long raid from Princeton into our lines, according to his account, destroyed three forts, two block houses, two steamboats, captured many prisoners, about one hundred horses, three or four hundred beef cattle, one piece of artillery, a large amount of stores, and brought out some recruits and absentees, and lost only two men.

The most dangerous raid, however, upon our outposts, was ROSSER's move against New Creek, in which he burnt the bridges between New Creek and Piedmont, and, at the latter place, destroyed some machine shops, engines, and rolling stock. General LEE's report of the affair is mainly correct:

General EARLY reports that General ROSSER, with PAYNE's and his own brigade, encountered on the 27th ult., near Moorefield, a small party of the enemy and captured forty prisoners and one piece of artillery. On the 28th he surprised and captured Fort Kelly, at New Creek, with four field pieces, four siege guns, between seven and eight hundred prisoners, a large number of horses and mules, and eight stands of colors, and destroyed two hundred wagons and a quantity of commissary and ordnance stores. He brought off the field pieces and some wagons, spiked the siege guns and destroyed the carriages. He also captured Piedmont, destroyed all the government buildings, containing a number of engines, burnt several bridges, did considerable damage to the railroad, and collected several hundred head of cattle. His loss was two killed and two or three wounded.

Early in December, BAYLOR's company of Virginia cavalry captured our guards at Charleston and Key Switch. On the 6th, Company A of the Twenty-first New York cavalry went out from Winchester to intercept him. The two parties, each about 40 or 50 strong, encountered at White Post, and our men were surprised and defeated, losing several killed and

wounded, and only 13 escaping. BAYLOR carried to Richmond from his trip 85 prisoners and 15 horses. It is claimed that his company is less than 50 strong.

During the same week, the first week in December, MEARITT'S (First) cavalry division crossed the Blue Ridge, and made a grand raid through the upper parts of Loudon and Fauquier counties, which were the chief haunts of MOSBY and his men. Everything was laid waste, barns, houses, farms and mills, many cattle were captured, and others slaughtered and burned. Unfortunately, not a few Union citizens suffered the loss of everything in the general destruction, but most of the people were sympathizers with MOSBY, so that the damage chiefly fell upon the enemy. The raid was in accordance with the policy initiated by GRANT and SHERIDAN, and its results, officially reported, are as follows:—

PROPERTY CAPTURED.				
	First Brigade.	Second Brigade.	Reserve Brigade.	Total.
Horses.....	147	235	86	388
Mules.....	4	4	—	8
Oats.....	2,563	2,483	474	5,520
Sheep.....	3,607	2,130	100	5,837
Swine.....	1,033	110	—	1,141
PROPERTY DESTROYED.				
Barns.....	474	464	230	1,168
Mills.....	19	22	8	49
Factories.....	—	2	—	2
Distilleries.....	1	—	1	2
Tons of hay.....	—	17,620	10,000	27,620
Bushels of wheat.....	—	26,500	25,000	51,500
Bushels of corn.....	5,400	57,500	—	62,900
Bushels of oats.....	—	2,000	—	2,000
Haystacks.....	990	151	—	1,141
Wheatstacks.....	—	87	—	87
Timber.....	1	—	—	1
Stacks of grain.....	104	—	—	104
Estimated value of property destroyed and captured by First brigade, Colonel STAGG.....				
				\$857,716
Second brigade, General DEVIN.....				1,239,520
Reserve brigade.....				411,520
Total.....				\$2,508,756

Perhaps the statement of a Rebel Commissioner of the revenue in Shenandoah county, made about the same time, will give a clearer idea of SHERIDAN'S previous cavalry operations in that county alone. He says:

I will now try and give you some idea of the damage done in part of this county by the Yankees in the way of burning of barns, mills, &c. I have been over nearly the whole of my district, comprising all the upper end of the county, from Narrow Passage Creek to the Rockingham county line, and I find there have been burned by SHERIDAN'S Army two hundred and fifteen barns, eighteen dwellings, eleven grist mills, nine water sawmills, two steam sawmills, one furnace, two forges, one fulling mill, one carding machine, besides a number of smaller buildings, such as stables, &c. The quantity of grain destroyed is immense. I cannot give you any idea of the amount of grain, hay, fodder, &c., destroyed, but the quantity is very large.

Soon after the events now recorded, the entire Sixth corps, as is well known, was withdrawn from SHERIDAN, and sent to GRANT at Richmond. But, meanwhile, the greater part of EARLY'S force had been sent down to LEE, and only a few thousand men remained at New-Market, to take care of the Upper Shenandoah, while an unusually large guerrilla force, under MOSBY, harassed our troops and communications, and performed daring and brilliant exploits. On the 17th, a detachment about 100 strong of the Fourteenth Pennsylvania cavalry, under Captain MILLS, was surprised by MOSBY'S men near Millwood, while going out to scout along the turnpike. So far from "scouting," the detachment appears to have been ambuscaded itself. Twenty-five reached camp again, but 12 were known to be killed, 23 wounded, and 40, unaccounted for, were probably captured. MOSBY has proved himself the most remarkable guerrilla leader of the war, and has captured an incredible number of men.

LATER CAVALRY RAIDS.

On Monday, the 18th, an expedition, consisting of MEARITT'S (First) and POWELL'S (Second) cavalry divisions, the former temporarily under DEVIN, and the whole under TORBERT, left the camp at Winchester. The expedition had been carefully prepared for some days, and the troops took six days' rations and one day's forage. No artillery was carried, and an unusually short train, considering that it was a cavalry raid. DEVIN, in advance, was off at daylight, and the expedition marched briskly, though in a heavy rain-storm. At noon, the north fork of the Shenandoah was reached and forded, and Front Royal passed, the column bivouacked at Chester Gap, after a march of 25 miles. A cold and heavy gale during the night blew up a frost. But the troops started at daylight again, on the 19th, and, for the first part of the march, were ordered to ride two miles and walk one, till the sun appeared to warm the atmosphere. A detachment under Captain FARON, of the Twenty-first New York, scouting for that purpose, overtook

and captured a herd of cattle, which was under charge of the enemy's soldiers, the guard escaping. Several prisoners were picked up here and there during the day. The troops marched that day through Sperryville. The third day, the 20th, opened with hail and rain. The troops were hurried forward, however, and, reaching Creighsville, found McCausland's camp-fires there still burning. POWELL encamped there, DEVIN keeping on to Madison Court-House, six miles distant. At the latter point, STAGG'S Michigan brigade, in DEVIN'S advance, encountered the enemy's pickets, and drove them back, in a sharp skirmish, through the town. The enemy's loss was 13, including a major and captain, the former killed. Ours was still less. On the morning of Wednesday, the 21st, which was clear and cold, POWELL, in advance, started from Madison Court-House. Soon after, TIBBETT'S brigade overtook the enemy, who had retreated on Stanardsville, and drove him rapidly. The enemy, under LOMAX, retreated over the bridge which crosses the Rapidan to Liberty Mills, and fired it, checking our pursuit, and then opened from the high grounds beyond with artillery. A reconnoissance was made, and, as its result, KELLOGG'S brigade of DEVIN'S division crossed the river by a ford on the right, and CAFHART'S brigade of POWELL'S division on the left. The right had some sharp skirmishing, but the left met little opposition in crossing. The enemy, however, fell back once more to avoid flanking, and CAFHART attacked him with spirit, KELLOGG on the right being equally prompt.

Next morning, Thursday, the 22d, the enemy's two guns were found abandoned, with full ammunition chests and horses. KELLOGG pushed on to within two or three miles of Gordonsville. There he found the enemy very strongly posted in a narrow pass on the turnpike road. TORBERT accordingly turned about and retraced his steps to Madison Court-House, and thence to Warrenton. DEVIN marched thence through Salem to Ashby's Gap and Millwood, and back to Winchester. POWELL marched through New Baltimore, White Plains, Middleburgh, Snickersville, and Perryville to Winchester. Both columns destroyed forage and cattle on their route, with such other devastation as was possible. They were harassed a little on the return by the enemy, who promptly issued from Gordonsville, but no damage of importance was done to either column. The raid seems to have been quite successful. Our total loss was probably only about 50 men. Our last cavalry fight is the one which the enemy describes as occurring at Jack's Shop, seven and a half miles from Gordonsville. He says that there are no Government stores or property of any kind at Gordonsville, and all we could do there would be to burn the empty buildings, and break the track and switches.

On Monday, the 19th, a coöperative cavalry column consisting of CUSTER'S division, moved out from camp on a reconnoissance up the Valley. A party of scouts under Major YOUNG, preceded the column, and skirmished on Monday and Tuesday with the enemy's pickets, capturing a few of them. On Tuesday night, the 20th, the column had reached and bivouacked at Lacey's Spring, nine miles from Harrisonburgh. Just before daylight, next morning, the camp was surprised by ROSSER'S cavalry, and 40 or 50 of the First New Hampshire, on picket duty were captured. Both brigades, PENNINGTON'S First and CHAPMAN'S Second, became sharply engaged, and eventually fell back down the turnpike, our total loss, however, being only two killed and 22 wounded, with about 40 prisoners. The advance of an infantry column of the enemy is said to have been the cause of our falling back. The enemy were dressed in blue overcoats, probably captured ones, and much confusion resulted, of course, in the fighting. His loss was about the same as ours in killed and wounded. He used the sabre chiefly, as the wounds of our men attested. The column returned to Winchester without further adventure. On the 19th, a guerrilla party dashed into the Fourteenth Pennsylvania cavalry corps of POWELL'S division, on the Front Royal Pike, and burned their forage. The following is EARLY'S version of both our raids:

On the 20th, General EARLY reported one division of the enemy's cavalry, under General CUSTER, coming up the Valley, and two divisions, under General TORBERT moving through Chester Gap with four pieces of artillery and thirty wagons. On the 22d ROSSER attacked CUSTER'S division nine miles from Harrisonburgh, and drove it back, capturing forty prisoners. This morning TORBERT attacked LOMAX near Gordonsville, and was repulsed and severely punished. He is retiring and LOMAX preparing to follow.

THE CAMPAIGN IN TENNESSEE.

It is now a matter of certainty that the enemy's losses in the two brilliant battles at Franklin and Nashville were seventeen general officers, more than 15,000 men, and forty-nine cannon. The pursuit of HOOD still continues. On Sunday night, the 25th, our advance was 21 miles south of Columbia, and daily capturing squads of prisoners. The woods were nearly impassable, and our chase was therefore retarded. The enemy is now fairly out of Tennessee, and has probably secured his retreat. FORREST commanded his rear. The particulars of the movement are given in Mr. STANTON'S dispatch.

General LYON'S raid into Kentucky is not yet completed. He crossed the Cumberland, in his advance, on the 10th of December, at Yellow Creek, 20 miles below Clarksville. His force was reported at 2,500 strong. On the 12th, he reached and captured Hopkinsville, Kentucky, conscripting citizens, and burning and carrying off property. McCook had a slight skirmish with his rear-guard at Elkton. Hattonsville, on the Memphis Branch Railroad, was reached on the 13th, and a large quantity of bacon and tobacco burned there. A column then moved on Russellville. Meanwhile, the guerrilla JESSE was operating in Newcastle, out of which Captain BRIDGEWATER, with 125 men, drove him, inflicting a loss of 13 men. LYON also occupied Eddysville, on the Cumberland, and turned a battery on the steamers in the river. On the 17th, McCook had a sharp skirmish with a part of LYON'S men at Ashbyville, driving them off and capturing one cannon. On the 13th, another of LYON'S columns was repulsed at Hopkinsville. On the 24th, LYON was at Elizabethtown and Heydensville, and the neighboring towns, and there was some skirmishing. On the 23d, LYON was reported to have captured a train containing 200 soldiers, whom he paroled.

WILMINGTON.

At length, it becomes proper to make some record of the expedition to Wilmington. Ever since the early part of August the great fleet of Rear-Admiral PORTER has been lying in Hampton Roads, ready for this expedition. After the orders to sail were finally given, there was a delay of several days on account of the wind blowing a gale. But, on Monday evening, the 12th, the transports and smaller fleet, about 75 vessels in all, got away. Next morning, all the line of battle ships, the *Ironsides*, and the *Monitors*, followed. We gave last week a full list (mainly correct, though with some slight inaccuracies) of the vessels engaged, divided into five divisions, and a division of iron-clads. Rear-Admiral PORTER'S flag-ship is the *Malvern*. The land forces were under charge of General BUTLER, and comprised from 8,000 to 10,000 men, the Tenth and Eighteenth corps, both of which have campaigned in the Carolinas.

Off Cape Hatteras, the fleet encountered bad weather, but, on the 14th, the fleet was off Beaufort, North Carolina, into which some of the transports put, for coaling. Next day, the 15th, the fleet arrived off Wilmington and prepared for its work. It was several days before wind and weather would allow our fleet to get into position, or the troops to be landed. On the 20th, the enemy reported us off New Inlet. Then the fleet drew off to sea again, reappearing on the 23d.

At noon of Saturday, the 24th, the fleet got into position and opened a furious fire until night on Fort Fisher, the strong earthworks on the north side of New Inlet, 20 miles below Wilmington, firing an average of 30 shots per minute. The enemy's loss was 23. The torpedo-boat *Louisiana* was successfully exploded near the fort at 2 o'clock, but there is no report yet of the damage, if any, that was done by her. The next day, Sunday, the bombardment was renewed at 10 o'clock, and continued till night. Under cover of this fire, on Sunday afternoon, a portion of our troops landed, advanced up to the fort with great gallantry, and actually gained the parapet and captured the outer flag. But the enemy, rallying again, repulsed us from the works. On the same day, sailors from the *Santiago* captured Pond Hill battery with 65 men, and brought them all to the ships. It is reported that our troops have reembarked. But the latest news is that, at all events, the bombardment is still going on. Secretary STANTON'S dispatch contains the latest advices.

THE USE OF FIELD ARTILLERY.

[We translate the following from the German *Kleiner Krieges-Handbuch*, for which it was originally translated from the Polish General C... The continuation of the paper will be given in future numbers.]

The object of Field Artillery is, on the one hand, to assail the enemy at a considerable distance, and so, not allow of his nearer approach with impunity; on the other hand, to support the attack of one's own army; covering its columns with a cross-fire, the purpose of which is either to drive off the enemy's Artillery, or to draw its fire on one's own pieces. From this application of the Artillery, we may deduce its proper proportion to the other troops, and likewise its proper rôle on the battle-field.

The experience of recent wars has established the following as the proper proportion of Artillery to the other arms: two pieces of mounted Artillery to every thousand Infantry, and four pieces of Horse Artillery to every thousand Cavalry.* This proportion, however, will become changed in the course of every war; because the strength of the Infantry and Cavalry is reduced by all sorts of losses, while those of the corresponding Artillery are reckoned simply and only in terms of lost pieces—a sort of loss which does not very often occur. The losses of men and horses in the Artillery are numerically unimportant, and can be at once more or less completely repaired so as to keep the pieces in service up to their full number. To strengthen the Artillery out of proportion to the other arms, is far from advantageous in war; for, too great a number of cannon diminishes very considerably the mobility of an army, and it is therefore better, should the proportion of Artillery become excessive, to withdraw a certain part of each battery, to send it back to the chief dépôt, and to use the men and horses thus set free for making good subsequent losses in the reduced batteries. This is incomparably the best method, for we must consider that, in the course of a long war, these batteries, although not diminished as to the number of their pieces, are, as a rule, reduced in value, principally from the fact that the men and horses picked up in various directions (as, unless the above plan is taken, they must be) have not always the proper instruction and the desirable qualifications.†

As regards organization, Field Artillery is divided into light and heavy—foot and horse Artillery; as regards its application, it must be anew divided into line and reserve Artillery, that is to say, every Corps d'Armée must put back into the reserve a certain part of its pieces which are not to be used, except by special order of the General commanding. As a general rule, at the commencement of a battle, the light pieces serve with the different divisions,‡ while the heavier pieces are kept in reserve. This applies only to the Foot Artillery, for, as is well known, Horse Artillery, (the Russian excepted)§ consists exclusively of light pieces. A goodly number of these in the reserve is, however, of the highest importance.

The reserve should include two-thirds of the Foot Artillery, of which, one-half light pieces, and one-third of the Horse Artillery.¶ In former times there was a "Regimental Artillery," that is, each regiment had its own cannon, but since the wars of 1812-13, this arrangement has been rejected as entirely unsuitable. Now-a-days, it is only a few Cossack regiments in the Russian Army which have their own Artillery.

The formal distinction between Foot and Horse Artillery, consists in the artillerists who serve the pieces being mounted on horseback in the latter, and following their pieces on foot, in the former. From this it follows:

(a.) Horse Artillery can carry out its movements incomparably quicker than Foot Artillery. The former, where no special obstacles hinder it, can easily make 187 yards in a minute, and, therefore, three miles in 27 minutes. Foot Artillery, even with considerable exertion, could scarcely accomplish half the distance in the same time.¶

(b.) Horse Artillery offers a better mark for the enemy's guns, and needs more time for unlimbering than Foot Artillery.

(c.) Horse Artillery is much the more costly and difficult to maintain.

From the difference between the two kinds of artillery, may be declared their separate applications on the battle-field. The special destination of the *Foot-Artillery* is to be used, first, in fixed positions, second, before the commencement of a retreat (should one take place), third, in masked batteries; in a word, wherever a prolonged cannonade is

expected. In addition, the Foot-Artillery comes into use with the advanced-guard, and by all surprises, for as it needs less time for unlimbering, it can open fire more quickly. Foot-Artillery is commonly employed with infantry. In some particular cases, however, it can be employed in connection with cavalry.

In like manner Horse Artillery, in conjunction with cavalry, special cases excepted, is to be used where the great point is that no time be lost, and on this very account it is necessary to have as large a quantity as possible in reserve, so that it may be at hand in whatever order the battle takes place. Horse Artillery is to be brought into action—first, in carrying a position; second, for the support and covering of cavalry movements; third, in flanking, or taking in reverse the enemy's lines; and in addition, it is indispensably necessary with a rear guard (in case of a retreat) for the purpose of holding the principal defensive points to the last moment. With an advanced-guard, on the contrary rôle is a subordinate one.

Since the Artillery should cover, with its fire, every movement of the Army, it must seek always to place itself in an advantageous position, both as regards the manner in which the Army is drawn up, and also in relation to the conformation of the ground.

Remark 1st.—In cases where the conformation of the ground does not prescribe any particular arrangement, the Artillery should be so placed among the battalions, that it may be able to maintain a cross-fire, and this in such a way that the enemy could not advance at any point without being under the fire of at least two batteries; in a word, the batteries should be so posted in the line that they may reciprocally sustain each other, and in case of need open a cross-fire. The heavier batteries should be placed behind the wings. Their work is to meet any flanking movement of the enemy, and at the same time to support the centre. For this last reason, whenever the point is much extended, a few of these batteries are placed on the most important points of the centre.

Remark 2d.—The best positions for Artillery are on plains; for then the enemy can be seen a long distance off, and the shot may probably act by ricochet. Slight eminences, sinking gradually toward the enemy, are very advantageous. The pieces should be so placed upon them as to be fully covered—that is, so that the crest of the eminence is some ten paces in front of the gun: so posted, the enemy's batteries will have little effect. A high hill whose foot cannot be commanded from the summit should not be occupied by artillery. Such hills are better defended by pieces placed somewhat to one side. Artillery must have an open view in front, in order that no movements of the enemy may pass unnoticed; hedges and the like obviously interfere with its effect. It should have in front a hard, and not slippery ground, and in rear there should be no obstacles which might interfere with its withdrawal; it also needs space for advancing. For these reasons, it is apparent that the intervals between pieces prescribed by the tactics cannot always be exactly observed. The most damaging of all positions for the effectiveness of Artillery are those where bushes or side-ditches are in the vicinity, into which the enemy's sharpshooters may creep, shoot down the cannoners, and even take the pieces. Whenever Artillery takes up a position, it should use to the best advantage all tongues of land, hillocks, depressions, and ditches; for all these varieties of ground can offer them a certain protection; they may shelter the pieces, or, at least, the limbers and caissons, a thing of importance even if the position cannot be held for any length of time. With the same purpose in view, such batteries on the wings as might easily be flanked by the enemy throw up breastworks for security from attack, and also to protect themselves against ricochet firing.

The first and most important objects at which Artillery must aim, are the hostile infantry and cavalry columns. Artillery fires on Artillery in order to destroy it or to drive it from its position; and this especially in the following cases: (1) as the hostile Artillery develops its batteries; (2) when its fire is causing much damage; (3) when one's own columns move forward to the attack. In this last case a part of the Artillery must strive to draw the fire of the enemy's batteries upon itself. Artillery must fire at no greater distance than, with the heavy calibres, 1100 yards, and with the light calibres 750 yards.* The further off the enemy is so much the more leisurely should the firing be in order that the aim may be more certain; and the nearer he comes, so much more rapid may it become. As a rule very rapid firing, such particularly as one sees in the Russian Artillery, should not be attempted. A battery does not fire all at once, but, usually by one piece at a time, and, at the most, by sections; excepting, indeed, when the Artillery is charged by cavalry, then the whole battery fires together with canister, and immediately withdraws. The fire of Artillery is, of course, most effective when a number of batteries are directed on one point.

* At present rifled guns may take a longer range.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

THE approach of the holidays has brought an unusually large number of new books to the editorial table, but, unfortunately, the extraordinary activity of all the military campaigns has lately compelled us to reduce our literary announcements to the very smallest compass.

Amongst the most enterprising publishers for the holidays have been the Messrs. J. E. TILTON & Co., of Boston, whose new juvenile books, especially, are worthy of much praise. Amongst these are "The Lifeboat," a tale of our coast heroes, by R. M. BALLANTYNE. This is an interesting and very well-narrated story for boys, and will probably prove a favorite. "Dora Darling, the Daughter of the Regiment," is another volume of the same series. Both books are patriotic and interesting, and may be recommended as excellent holiday presents.

HARPER & BROTHERS, New York, publish an exceedingly entertaining volume called "Arctic Researches, and Life among the Esquimaux." It is the narrative of an expedition sent in search of Sir JOHN FRANKLIN during the years 1860, 1861, and 1862, by CHARLES FRANCIS HALL. The volume is one of great interest and instruction. It contains maps and a hundred fine illustrations. Our readers will remember the charm of Dr. KANE's story of his famous expedition in the same direction, and its excellence as a gift-book. Mr. HALL's story deserves a circulation amongst all the readers of Dr. KANE. HARPER & BROTHERS also publish "The Perpetual Curate," by Mrs. Oliphant, authoress of "Chronicles of Carlingford," etc. This is a pleasantly-written story, possessing that quiet charm of home life which distinguishes the works of this authoress. "From Dan to Beersheba," Dr. NEWMAN's recent book on Palestine, has excited no little attention, and criticism both favorable and adverse. Of one thing there can be no question: it is a very useful book to all those who are in frequent need of consulting some recent, general book of description of the Holy Land, as it appears to the intelligent and religious traveller. Its value is increased by maps and good engravings. This volume, also, is from HARPER & BROTHERS. To the list of publications of the same house, we must add:—"Margaret Denzel's History," annotated by her husband. A novel. And, also, "Le Maudit," translated from the French.

ROBERTS BROTHERS, Boston, publish "Studies for Stories," by JEAN INGELW—A charming volume, which introduces the rare English poetess in the dress of prose. The imprint is that of the University Press. W. H. APPLETON, New York, publishes a book for boys called "The Miner Boy and his Monitor," by Rev. P. C. HEADLEY. It is a narrative of the career and achievements of JOHN ERICSSON, the Engineer. Other books lying before us, claim notice, but they must be delayed one more week.

REMINISCENCE OF GENERAL GRANT.

THE following document is on file in the office of the County Clerk of St. Louis county, and is labelled "Application of U. S. GRANT for the office of County Engineer"—"Rejected."

St. Louis, August 16, 1859.

HON. COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, St. Louis county, Mo.:—

GENTLEMEN—I beg leave to submit myself as an applicant for the office of county engineer, should the office be rendered vacant, and at the same time to submit the names of a few citizens who have been kind enough to recommend me for the office. I have made no effort to get a large number of names, nor the names of persons with whom I am not personally acquainted. I enclose herewith also a statement from Professor J. J. REYNOLDS, who was a classmate of mine at West Point, as to qualifications.

Should your honorable body see proper to give me the appointment, I pledge myself to give the office my entire attention, and shall hope to give general satisfaction. Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

U. S. GRANT.

The above document is signed by several prominent citizens at the present time, and also by a number of individuals who occupy positions in the Rebel Army.

THE following is the text of an order issued by Major-General Ord, from Headquarters Army of the James, under date of December 18th:—"Hereafter, when an application is made for a furlough or leave of absence, except on the ground of disability, the Brigade Commander will direct the applicant to appear before him personally; and if a cavalry soldier, will inspect his horse, arms and equipments, and forward with the application a report of their condition. If an infantry soldier, the man will appear with his arms, ammunition and equipments, and their condition will be reported with the application by the Brigade Commander; and no cavalry-man will be allowed a furlough, unless he has been at least a week sick, whose horse is not reported in first-rate condition. If the applicant is an officer in command of a company, troop, or regiment, his whole company, troop, or regiment will be inspected by the Brigade Commander at the time of application, and a report of its condition, especially the condition of its horses, if a cavalry command, will accompany the application. In case the applicant is an officer in one of the Staff Departments, an inspection will be made of the condition of his office and papers, by the Chief of that Staff Department, at Brigade Headquarters, who will forward the result of his inspection with the application."

* The proportions here given are different from those adopted in the United States Army. The author seems especially to insist on a large ratio of horse artillery, and for other services than merely accompanying the cavalry.

† It may be mentioned that the author has in view an establishment of eight pieces to the battery.

‡ Original, brigades, but a German brigade equals our division.

§ The Russians have horse batteries of eight 28-pounder howitzers (licornes), the pieces drawn, each, by eight horses.—*McClellan's Report.*

¶ This, it will be seen, gives a larger ratio of light pieces in the reserve than the United States custom.

‡ Of course, this does not include very short distances, when the cannoners mount the boxes.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion, in communications addressed to the JOURNAL.

ENGLISH AND AMERICAN GUN-FIRING.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR:—Please refer to the English "Army and Navy Gazette" of Dec. 3d inst.—p. 777, giving the results of firing rapidly one hundred rounds from the Armstrong 12-pounder breech-loader field-gun, by the Armstrong-Whitworth Committee at Shoeburyness.

Really our "trans-atlantic cousins" are making rapid and interesting discoveries in gunnery practice, which are more astonishing when we consider the very short time they have been engaged in such amusements.

Your attention was called the other day to the discovery made by the Lords of Admiralty, of an iron gun-carriage and slide, for use on ship board, which indicates a sharpness and close attention to business on their part not to be wondered at. But this extraordinary firing at Shoeburyness by the breech-loading Committee, whose opportunities for experiment with a view to settling the vexed question of Armstrong *vs.* Whitworth breech-loaders *vs.* muzzle-loaders, have been so extensive and varied, must be surprising to the English public, and would be so to us, were it not that our Naval Ordnance records show many instances of much more rapid firing from the Navy 12-pounder muzzle loading field-howitzer.

This gun, weighing seven hundred and fifty pounds, has been fired repeatedly from its boat and field carriage ten times a minute; frequently, from its field carriage, four times in eighteen and twenty seconds; and on one occasion, with a well-drilled crew of ordinary Yankee seamen, four rounds were fired in fourteen seconds! In this latter instance, the four shells were most certainly all in the air at the same time—the elevation of the piece being only three degrees.

Therefore, the practice at Shoeburyness, made from a gun constructed especially with reference to rapidity of loading and firing, is by no means "by far the most rapid artillery fire on record," nor is it "more than twice as rapid" as ever has been accomplished by any muzzle-loading "gun."

Moreover, in our Navy firing, a moist sponge was used at each round, and no "hitch of any sort" occurred.

Now, the continuation of such rapid firing as ten rounds per minute with a muzzle-loading gun, depends only upon the endurance of the crew, and we think our men could easily stand the strain for fifty rounds; although, when firing from the field carriage, the gun is allowed to recoil freely and must be run up again to position, sponged, loaded and primed before firing.

The article in the English Gazette concludes by saying, "the sailors at Portsmouth have been deservedly belauded, but we think the soldiers should now have their turn." To this we certainly do not object. "Palmam qui Sner" int, ferat.

WASHINGTON, December 24, 1864.

THE LAW OF CAPTURED PROPERTY.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR:—General SHERMAN has captured in Savannah twenty-five thousand bales of cotton, which are probably worth twenty millions of dollars. As an interesting question of ownership may arise, the following legal view of the question may not be without interest:

Personal property of a combatant, non-combatant or alien, within an enemy's lines, is affected in a state of war as follows:—1st.—If it belonged at any time during the war to the belligerent government (was public property), no transfer to combatant, non-combatant or alien, will divest the belligerent captor of his right to such property upon capture. 2d.—If it never belonged to the belligerent government (was always private property), capture does not divest the owner of his right unless it be captured within a besieged place after assault. To this rule there are the following exceptions:—Personal property found upon the person of a combatant when captured; the military equipment of a combatant in actual hostile use at time of capture; property known as contraband of war in whose hands it may be found and under all circumstances.

When personal property is found within a besieged place, the rights of the captor depend upon the fact, whether the place surrendered upon summons or was taken by assault. [This is considered under the supposition that no argument as to terms was made by the victor].

If the place was surrendered upon summons, the case is as in (2), with the exceptions.

If the place was captured by assault after summons (or without summons), and after notification, with proper time, to remove non-combatants and their property, all the personal property of combatants and non-combatant citizens becomes the property of the captors.

Is this the rule with aliens? If not the following propositions are true:—

A.—Personal property of an alien within enemy's lines is not forfeited in state of war.

B.—Being within a besieged place forms no exception.

C.—Notice to remove bars claim for damages from injury, but does not transfer property to captors.

If there was no notification to remove, the condition of all personal property is as in 2, with the exceptions. [This would happen in case of a sudden attack on an unfortified place, in which rapidity of movement was indispensable.]

If (A) (B) and (C) are correct propositions, the time of transfer of personal property to an alien is of controlling importance in divesting the victor of his capture.

Whether before the siege or before any anticipation of one, would be vital questions.

What classes of property come under (C) seems to be arbitrary as regards our own Rebel citizens.

We declare negroes "contraband of war." [See Butler.] We seize and destroy much private property of service in keeping alive Rebel armies, and this we do on the ground of military necessity. Unless future legislation should de-

bar owners from making a claim therefor, it may be there is no law of nations, or any other law, to decide against the owner in an action against the officer who orders the destruction.

Whether we are to treat citizen Rebels as foreign belligerents is a question for future consideration. G.

FORTRESS MONROE, VA., December 27, 1864.

MUSIC IN THE ARMY.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR:—Sitting in my tent but a short distance from the works of the enemy listening to a Rebel brass band playing the familiar airs of "Lorena," "Love not," "The Mocking bird," and others, I am led to reflect upon the subject of music in the Army.

Was that a wise policy, or rather, was it not a penny-wise, pound-foolish policy, which has so nearly discarded music from our Army? Poor as the Rebels are, they still cling to the luxury of music; though it is long since many of them have tasted coffee or whisky.

The effect of music upon soldiers, for good, isolated as they are, from all home influences and social enjoyments, cannot be estimated. So much depends upon their spirits, and faith in the sublimity of the cause for which they are called upon to sacrifice so much, that anything which tends to elevate the soul of man, to swell his heart and revive the memory of better things in life, so well worth fighting for—is good for an army, as an individual. To know this, one has but to witness either a charge or a panic upon the battle-field. Discipline is indispensable; dash is the next best thing. Combine the two, and an army is invincible, is irresistible. While one is enforced, let the other be encouraged. Take a regiment of infantry that has been marched until from exhaustion it seems about to crumble to pieces—and let a band strike up: how quickly all is changed, men who could scarcely walk before, will "close up," "dress files," and step as lightly, and as true to the music, as ever marched a mimic army upon the stage; and will seem a mighty body with but one lofty purpose, and one pair of feet. Music and gallant deeds go together; it is impossible to separate them in the mind. "He that hath not music in his soul, is ripe for treason."

Give us music, music for the million—heavenly music for our Army. FIELD PIECE.

ORDER OF BATTLE—GRAND SQUARE IN A LOZENGE.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR:—When Marshal BUGEAUD advanced to his victory of Italy, with his infantry forming an immense square, or rather lozenge, he was saluted as the inventor of a new order of battle. To readers who have never seen diagrams or descriptions it may be necessary to state that, according to LAVELAINE DE MAUREGUE, a divisional Grand Square in a Lozenge is a tactical disposition of four battalions in square, in each face in echelons at 70 paces distance. Within such, but a much larger echelon of battalions, representing a series of mutually covering and flanking detached forts, the French Governor-General of Algiers placed, according to rule, his artillery, baggage, ambulances, etc., etc., and even his cavalry, and, like a moving fortified and entrenched camp,—with its garrison within, as it were—all prepared to rally forth at the proper moment,—bore down upon the multitudinous Moorish army of horsemen. As soon as they were disordered by the fire from the living forts and bastions, the cavalry issued forth and completed their discomfiture. This gives a general idea of the battle of Italy,* which was in fact a simple triumph of discipline and civilization, over disorganized, ill-armed, and worse officered numbers. It was NAPOLEON's battle of the Pyramids on a larger scale as to numbers, on a smaller scale as to the difficulties overcome. It was fought by a French army superior in effectiveness even to that of Egyptian celebrity.

Of this disposition in actual battle of an army in a grand square, in the manner already described, BUGEAUD was saluted as the originator. Imagine the writer's astonishment on reading up authorities for a life of JOHN CAVALIER and "Civil Wars of the Cevennes," to find that the Great Duke of ROHAN, who lived a Christian soldier and leader, and died a hero, adopted the very same order of battle—a Divisional Grand Square in a Lozenge—in 1628, when he commanded the Protestant army, in LOUIS XIII.'s time, in the Cevenne country. The infantry of his army, composed of four regiments, followed the advanced guard (consisting of three cornets or companies of cavalry) in four hollow squares relatively disposed in the shape of a lozenge. The only difference between BUGEAUD's and ROHAN's tactics seems to be in the fact that the battalions of the former were, so to speak, in solid squares, doubled on the centre, while the latter's were in hollow squares.

In both cases, at Italy and at Saint Germain, the Generals who commanded were successful, and owed their success not only to the disposition of their forces, but to their able manoeuvres executed with precision by their subordinates. ANCHOR.

TACTICAL SUGGESTIONS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR:—In your paper of August 20th, "Field Officer" of California Vols. advances some good ideas, under the title "A new formation for Infantry." But a mistake occurs in calling the formation "new," as it is only the recital of an old movement described by Marshal MARMONT, who, in his works, points out the same thing, to contract lines by giving them more depth, that they may move with more facility and regularity. He also shows some of the combinations of which such formation is susceptible. The article has merit, inasmuch as it points to the great usefulness of the movement and gives more changes, many of which would be very applicable to practical service.

General CASEY's "Division Columns at company distance," are, in my opinion, but the carrying out of the same idea, with the improvement of yet less extended front,

* For a popular and interesting account of the battle of Italy, see ALIBON's continuation of his History of Europe, HARPER's edition.

which every officer knows is of great value in making quick changes in presence of the enemy.

In discussing movements by "inversion," I would beg to advance an idea not laid down in the "tactics." That is, to double column by inverse means. The companies of the right and left wings to close in front of the centre division in place of the rear. I conceive the movement would be advantageous in the following position: Take, for instance, a defile in front of the centre of a line, which must be passed in the least space of time, and the deployment must be made while the column is debouching from said defile, and by the head of the double column, with the prolongation of the line immediately in front of the obstruction, and not the depth of the column in advance, as it must be in the double column proper.

The ployment could be made by the command, "By 'inversion,' double column at half distance," etc. Companies would break two files to the front instead of the rear. The deployment would be the same as from double column proper, with the following difference,—the leading companies would move off by the right and left flanks as soon as the obstruction was passed, and the rear (centre) division move up to the line indicated by markers. I merely advance the above as an idea for the consideration of older and wiser heads. INSPECTOR.

DEPT OF THE GULF, Dec. 9, 1864.

AN ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR:—When ANCHOR replied to A. A. H., in the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL of the 3d December, he was not aware that those initials represented a courteous and distinguished officer of the U. S. Naval Ordnance Department, with whom, years ago, he had the pleasure of travelling, and from whom he learned very much concerning the capabilities of shell-guns. The information thus agreeably acquired, taken down in notes of the conversations, the writer afterwards communicated to Lieutenant-General ALESSANDRO DE LA MARMORA, originator of the celebrated Sardinian Bersaglieri, and Governor of Genoa. It proved of great interest to that officer, who was then engrossed with contemplated fortifications on the Gulf of Spezzia. The idea was to construct certain works whose key was to be a fort on the top of an almost inaccessible granite mountain, La Castellana, which dominates that congeries of havens and the adjacent coasts somewhat as Mount Desert proper, on the coast of Maine, commands the surrounding sounds and islands. Thence, columbiads would have enjoyed a range which would have rendered a marine attack on the Sardinian Navy Yards in that haven of havens, an impossibility. The grand experiments of A. A. H. at a time when horizontal shell-firing was, comparatively speaking, just beginning to develop its destructive capabilities, seemed to satisfy General LA MARMORA of the advantage of the plan proposed. Doubtless the Crimean War, his death by cholera at Balaklava, the subsequent Italian War of Regeneration and other immediate wonderful occurrences, nipped in the bud the development of a theory in practice, which only needed the energy of such a chivalric officer, practical soldier, and deep-thinking organizer to render a decided success. The plan of fortifying La Spezzia, described in Vol. I, No. 6, of the *Eclairneur*, has been alluded to in the JOURNAL. ANCHOR.

AN OMISSION.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR:—In your issue of the 24th, in giving an account of the "Campaign in Tennessee," you inadvertently made an omission, which some of your friends in Rhode Island think should be supplied. It occurs at the close of the last paragraph in the second column on the first page, where you speak of the great line of rebel communication, "between the East and West, which was destroyed by the campaigns of ROSECRANS and GRANT." Surely, the country cannot so soon have forgotten the brilliant and decisive campaign of General BURNSIDE in East Tennessee; his rapid march over the mountains, his occupation of Knoxville, his capture of Cumberland Gap with its garrison and artillery, his deliverance of all that section from rebel authority, and finally, his persistent and successful defence of Knoxville against LONGSTREET. These are services which deserve the most honorable mention, and contributed very largely to the destruction of the rebel communication between East and West. ROSECRANS' and GRANT's campaigns would have been partial and indecisive, without BURNSIDE's operations. It is but fair also to add, that General BURNSIDE in his campaigns, has captured from the enemy 217 guns and several thousand prisoners, and that the Ninth corps which he commanded, has never lost a piece of artillery, nor even a flag, previous to the assault on Petersburg of July 30th. Pardon me for bringing to your notice these facts. I know that you will be glad to correct any impression which might seem to be an injustice to a very meritorious and distinguished officer.

Believe me, very truly yours,
PROVIDENCE, R. I., December 28, 1864.

A. W.

THE Secretary of the Interior has decided on an appeal from the action of the Pension Bureau, that additional Paymasters in the Army are not employed in the military service proper, and hence are not entitled to a continuance of any pension they may have been receiving at the time of their appointment, although enjoying the full rank, pay and emoluments of majors in the Army. The decision involves the withholding of pensions from paymasters as such, and from the widows of those killed in the line of duty, inasmuch as being only in a civil branch of the service, these officers cannot be entitled to the benefits of the pension laws, or their relatives on their behalf. This decision is made in the case of Major Geo. B. Ely, who was a Captain of Volunteers, and pensioned as such prior to being appointed a paymaster.

THERE is now in successful operation, says the Richmond Examiner, at the Confederate States laboratory, in Richmond, a machine capable of turning out three hundred and forty thousand percussion gun caps in eight hours, filling and pressing them.

MILITARY AND NAVAL AFFAIRS IN CONGRESS.

Congress has been in session but a single day since our last report, adjourning over the holidays, to meet again on the 5th of January, 1865. Additional petitions from Army officers, asking for an increase of pay, were received by the Senate and referred to the Military Committee.

Mr. WILSON, from the Military Committee, reported adversely to the House bill to drop from the rolls certain officers in the Army. The report states that the House bill does not leave any discrimination to be used in the matter, while it is evident that much discrimination ought to be used. It alleges that the President has already as much power in the matter as is necessary or expedient. The report was ordered to be printed.

A resolution was adopted instructing the Committee on Military Affairs to inquire into the manner in which the Soldiers' Home has been managed, and whether the benevolent object of the Government in establishing the Home could not be better achieved in some other way; and one calling on the Secretary of War for information as to whether the Militia of Delaware, called out for thirty and one hundred days last July, were exempt from draft.

Mr. WILSON offered an amendment to the House bill to define the pay and emoluments of certain officers of the Army. This amendment provides: First. That it is not within the intent of the Act of March, 1863, entitled "An Act to authorize the Brevet of Volunteer and other Officers of the United States Service," to make a distinction as to pay between officers of Volunteer and other forces, including the regular Army; but that such brevet rank does not entitle any officer to increase of pay. Second. That if a soldier discharged for wounds received in battle die before receiving the bounty provided by the Act of March, 1863, entitled "An Act to amend an Act to authorize the employment of Volunteers," the bounty shall descend to his heirs, in the same manner and order of succession as if he had died in the service. The amendment was ordered to be printed.

The only business of any kind transacted by the House was the adoption of a resolution directing the Secretary of War to communicate, if not inconsistent with the public interests, the report of Major-General CANBY concerning the purchase by the United States of the products of the States declared to be in insurrection.

RAID AGAINST THE VIRGINIA SALT WORKS.

[From the Lynchburg Virginian, December 22.]

On Monday, the 12th, the enemy—since ascertained to consist of GILLESPIE's, STONEMAN's and BURBRIDGE's forces, concentrated at Bean's Station, and advanced eastward. VAUGHN was at Greenville and DUKE's brigade at Rogersville. The movement was rapid, and DUKE being in their route was forced back to Kingsport, when, on the 18th, he was attacked and suffered a repulse. The enemy thus got ahead of VAUGHN, and on the morning of the 14th entered Bristol. On the next night he entered Abingdon. DUKE falling back towards Abingdon. General BRECKINRIDGE, at Wytheville, apprised of the advance, at once began to concentrate his troops for the defence of Saltville. On the afternoon of the 14th he started by train for that point himself; arriving at Glade Spring that night late, he barely escaped capture and reached Saltville next morning, the enemy reaching Glade Spring shortly after daylight on the 15th. The forces of the enemy, after leaving Abingdon, divided into two columns—one threatening Saltville, the other going to Glade Spring and towards Wytheville. At three P. M., the enemy entered Marion, twenty-six miles west of Wytheville, and detached a force, which was sent southeast, towards the lead mines. Meanwhile General VAUGHN, leaving Bristol to his left, arrived in front of Marion, and, supposing the main column had gone to the lead mines, pursued the detachment with his main force, leaving Colonel GILLISPIE with the remainder of his command at Marion. On the morning of the 16th at daylight, Colonel GILLISPIE was attacked and repulsed, retreating towards Wytheville, sixteen miles distant. There were no troops at this point, the railroad superintendent having failed to send them from Dublin. For want of cars, also, but a portion of the stores could be removed from Wytheville.

The retreat of GILLISPIE was so rapid and the pursuit of the enemy so close that the former arrived at Wytheville at half-past eleven A. M., and passed through the town in a stampede, all efforts to rally them failing. The enemy appeared at one P. M., their videttes approaching very cautiously. Major JOHNSTON, A. A. G. of BRECKINRIDGE's staff, with a half dozen officers and men, remained, and, by standing picket at the west end of the town, in sight of the Yankees, detained them from coming in for two hours. The town was by this time cleared. At three P. M., Major JOHNSTON having withdrawn to the east of the town, General GILLESPIE sent in a flag of truce, which Major JOHNSTON received through Captain SEMPLE and Major McMAHON, of General BRECKINRIDGE's staff. The unconditional surrender of the town was demanded, with guarantee of security to private property and citizens. Major JOHNSTON replied, agreeing to surrender the town on those conditions, provided he was allowed half an hour in which to withdraw his forces. After much deliberation, General GILLESPIE declined to give the time asked, but to respect private property and citizens.

Major JOHNSTON, having thus gained more than an hour for the retreating cavalry and trains, withdrew his forces, six all told, and came on towards Dublin. The enemy adhered to his terms, and disturbed no private property. When GILLESPIE found out the ruse that had been practiced upon him, he was more amused than incensed.

On Saturday morning, before daylight, the enemy, after burning the railroad depot, ordnance and medical buildings, retired as he came, first sending a detachment of two hundred to the lead mines. General VAUGHN was at this important point, but, believing exaggerated reports of the enemy's strength, retreated on his approach. The damage to the mines was slight, and can soon be repaired. The enemy retired towards Marion, doubtless to effect a junction

with the main force and capture Saltville; but at last accounts this important point was safe, and General BRECKINRIDGE had repulsed the enemy on several occasions. The raid is ably conducted, the force moving rapidly and doing but little pillaging.

[From the Lynchburg Virginian, Dec. 18.]

This raid turns out to be an extensive and damaging one. Our account of it yesterday morning left the enemy reported to be advancing on Abingdon. The report unfortunately proved to be correct. They reached that place at half-past nine o'clock on Wednesday night, December 14. We have heard nothing of their operations there. They could not have tarried long, however, as they pushed on and reached Glade Spring depot by nine o'clock yesterday morning, December 17. At this point we learn they captured and destroyed two more trains of the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad. The losses in rolling stock on the Virginia and Tennessee road sum up, as far as we have ascertained, three locomotives, six passenger coaches and fourteen flats. One of the engines—the A. V. Brown—was probably the finest on the road, and will be greatly missed. On the East Tennessee and Virginia road two engines and a number of cars were destroyed.

Glade Spring is at the junction of the Salt Works branch and the main road, and is distant only eight miles from the salt works.

The loss of the works, should that misfortune occur, would certainly be a severe blow, but not a ruinous one. Phoenix-like, they could be reconstituted from their ashes in time and set to work again.

The last heard from the raiders they were moving in the direction of Marion, Smyth County, and were within one mile of that place, instead of advancing on the salt works, as we had supposed they would. Marion is sixteen miles this side of Glade Spring.

It is supposed that the enemy did not consider themselves strong enough to attack the salt works. BURBRIDGE having had one taste of that place, is willing to give it the go-by this time.

There is a railroad bridge just at Marion, and three within two miles of the place, all considerable bridges, and will doubtless be destroyed. There are also large iron works at Marion.

LETTERS FROM GENERAL LEE.

The following letters from General LEE, written soon after the outbreak of the Rebellion, have just been made public:

ARLINGTON, Va., April 20, 1861.

GENERAL:—Since my interview with you on the 18th inst., I have felt that I ought no longer to retain my commission in the Army. I, therefore, tender my resignation, which I request you will recommend for acceptance. It would have been presented at once, but for the struggle it has cost me to separate myself from a service to which I have devoted all the best years of my life and all the ability I possessed.

During the whole of that time—more than a quarter of a century—I have experienced nothing but kindness from my superiors, and the most cordial friendship from my comrades. To no one, General, have I been as much indebted as to yourself for uniform kindness and consideration, and it has always been my ardent desire to merit your approbation. I shall carry to the grave the most grateful recollections of your kind consideration, and your name and fame will always be dear to me.

Save in defence of my native State, I never desire again to draw my sword. Be pleased to accept my most earnest wishes for the continuance of your happiness and prosperity, and believe me, most truly yours,

R. E. LEE.

Lieutenant-General WINFIELD SCOTT, Commanding United States Army.

A copy of the preceding letter was enclosed in the following letter to a sister of the General, Mrs. A. M.:

ARLINGTON, Va., April 20, 1861.

MY DEAR SISTER:—I am grieved at my inability to see you. * * * I have been waiting "for a more convenient season," which has brought to many before me deep and lasting regret. Now we are in a state of war which will yield to nothing. The whole South is in a state of revolution, into which Virginia, after a long struggle, has been drawn, and though I recognize no necessity for this state of things, and would have forborne and pleaded to the end for redress of grievances, real or supposed, yet in my own person I had to meet the question, whether I should take part against my native State. With all my devotion to the Union, and the feeling of loyalty and duty of an American citizen, I have not been able to make up my mind to raise my hand against my relatives, my children, my home. I have, therefore, resigned my commission in the Army, and, save in defence of my native State, with the sincere hope that my poor services may never be needed, I hope I may never be called on to draw my sword.

I know you will blame me, but you must think as kindly of me as you can, and believe that I have endeavored to do what I thought right. To show you the feeling and struggle it has cost me, I send a copy of my letter to General Scott, which accompanied my letter of resignation. I have no time for more. * * * May God guard and protect you and yours, and shower upon you every blessing, is the prayer of your devoted brother.

R. E. LEE.

The London *Army and Navy Gazette*, says:—"We are glad to find that the Lords of the Admiralty are quite alive to the importance of an efficient plan for mounting heavy guns upon the broadside, and have been lately considering several methods for attaining this great desideratum. We trust, therefore, that the efforts they are now making will be crowned with success, and that in this matter we shall be far ahead of other maritime nations. In America the present plan of working their 74-ton 11-inch guns upon the broadside seems to have given so little satisfaction, that doubts have been expressed as to the *Ironclads* and other large vessels being able to fight them in a sea way. As pivot guns, however, these 11-inch have been a decided success, the carriage and slide answering well. In France there is a similar difficulty as to heavy guns, which seems to be due to the retention of the old plan of tackle, which

are always in the way, and call off attention from the proper laying of the gun. For these large guns we must begin *de novo*, casting away preconceived notions, and adopt a plan that enables the gun to be securely held and fought in all weathers."

OFFICIAL dispatches received from Mexico state that President JUAREZ entered Chihuahua on the 12th of October, and met with a very enthusiastic reception, not only from the people of the city, but from the inhabitants of other towns of the State. The Mexican President designed to establish his residence in Durango, after that city was occupied by the national forces, but the French having obtained a victory at the Estanzuela on the 2d of September, the Mexican Army had to withdraw to Chihuahua. President JUAREZ is now there busy organizing another army to carry on more effectually the war against the invaders. He writes to a friend of his in this country in the most hopeful way. The general impression in Mexico seems to be that MAXIMILIAN's rule has so many obstacles in its way that it cannot stand more than six months longer, even in case the Mexican patriots would be hereafter as unfortunate as they have been heretofore in their efforts to oppose the conquest. MAXIMILIAN has set aside the Church party, which was the means by which he went into Mexico, and has exiled its two principal leaders. He wishes to conciliate the Liberals.

[From the Savannah Republican, December 20th.]

It is reported that the Committee on Military Affairs in the House of Representatives have agreed upon a bill for the increase of the army. It is said that all local preachers not exercising pastoral care by regular appointment over some church, and all physicians who have not been practicing for ten years, if able and within conscript age, will be required to perform military duty. There is an additional provision in regard to physicians under forty-five, who are exempted, which relates to the fees that may be charged by them for professional services. Many ministers of the Gospel took an active part in the secession movement, and it seems to be the opinion of the committee that they should be required to practice their own precepts, and show their faith by their works.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Newark Advertiser* writes from Plymouth, N. C., that he has lately made a visit to the iron-clad *Albatross*. He states that a portion of her casemate and a part of her torpedo arrangement on her bow are visible, giving her the appearance of being about 60 feet in length, but the whole length cannot be less than 175 feet. The parties who made an inspection of the ram on the 8th of this month state that it would cost \$15,000 or \$20,000 to raise her, and that her hull is in good condition in every part, save where the torpedo sprung her sides a distance of ten feet in length by four in breadth. It would seem from this that our Government could do nothing better than to have her raised.

A LETTER from Toulouse, France, gives an account of the retirement from the world of an officer of the *Chasseurs à Cheval*. The young captain had become a Carmelite, and assumed that livery of woe in the place of his gaudy uniform. His final act, so far as his worldly affairs were concerned, was to give up his sword and the Cross of the Legion of Honor, which he gained for distinguished conduct in the field. As he kissed these loved relics of the life he was about to quit, and gave them to his father, the whole congregation were affected to tears.

A LETTER from General SHERMAN is in Washington, which treats incidentally of our administration of the war and the prospects of the Rebellion, and which closes as follows: "My idea is that every young and middle-aged man ought to be proud of the chance to fight for the integrity of his country. I would like to see all trade and commerce absolutely cease until this conflict is over; and all who can fight and won't fight ought to be killed or banished; and those who won't support those who do fight should be denationalized."

COLONEL J. H. Baker, of the 10th Minnesota, has been appointed to the position of Provost-Marshal-General for the Department of Missouri. Colonel Davis, who discharged the duties of Provost-Marshal-General during the interval following the resignation of Colonel Darr, is assigned to the position of Inspector in connection with the office. Colonel Baker is succeeded, as post commander, by Colonel M. Welder, of the 1st Missouri.

LATE Nassau papers received at New York report that the blockade runners Old Dominion, Wild Rover, Little Hattie, Banshee and Agnes E. Fry, had arrived from Wilmington; the Syren had arrived from Charleston; the Gem, Marmion and Kenilworth had returned in distress; and the Virginia, Hansa, Ella, Kate Gregg, Charlotte, Will-o'-the-Wisp, Stormy Petrel, Little Hattie, Syren and Star, had sailed to run the blockade.

It is pleasant to record that Colonel HENRY L. ABBOT of the First Connecticut Artillery has been appointed brevet brigadier-general for distinguished and gallant service before Richmond, and especially in the lines in front of Petersburg, his commission to date from August 1, 1864. General ABBOT is not only an accomplished soldier, but is a thorough scientific scholar.

COMMODORE Wilkes was suspended from duty for three years from May 3, 1864, by the sentence of court-martial. The President has this week remitted two years of his sentence, so that the time of suspension determines on the 3d of next May.

FROM and after December 1st, 1864, the Department of the Susquehanna will be known as the Department of Pennsylvania, headquarters at Philadelphia.

CAPT. W. H. Bailhache, A. Q. M., is on duty in New York city, as disbursing officer, under the direction of Gen. Van Vliet. His office is at No. 18 State street.

ASSIMILATED RANK IN THE NAVY.

The following report of a Board of Naval officers on the question of assimilated rank in the Navy, though it comes to us at a late date, deserves publication, and will be read with interest by the large class who are deeply interested in the subject. We give the report in full, with the exception of the writer's opinions of the different officers, which opinions are summed up in the concluding paragraphs:

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 9th, 1864.

SIR:—A plan for the assimilation of rank between the line and staff officers of the Navy having been submitted to the Navy Department by the Board convened for the purpose of revising a code of regulations prepared by Rear-Admiral GOLDSBOROUGH, copies of it were sent to the several squadrons with a view of ascertaining (as is understood) the opinions of the commanding and fleet officers in regard to it. The communications from those officers have been presented to the Board with directions to compile a synopsis of their contents for the information of the Department.

Before proceeding to this work the Board begs leave to state, as succinctly as possible, the grounds upon which its recommendation was based.

For many years this subject of assimilated rank has deeply agitated the Navy; the line officers have felt that their claims for consideration were overlooked and that their services in the most important branch of naval duty were virtually considered as inferior to those of the staff officers, which in fact can only be regarded as auxiliary to those of the line, and as created solely for their more efficient performances.

A glance at the Navy Register for 1861—issued just previous to the commencement of the present war—will disclose the grounds for this agitation and discontent. The junior Surgeon ranking with Commanders, held a commission seven years and a half junior to that of the oldest Lieutenant on the active list, who entered the Navy nearly nine years and a half before the Surgeon. The junior Paymaster ranking with Commanders, held a commission about six years junior to the same Lieutenant, who entered the Navy nearly nineteen years before the Paymaster. The junior Engineer ranking with Commanders held a commission seven years and a half junior to the same Lieutenant, who entered the Navy sixteen years before the Engineer, when the latter was an infant five years and a half old.

This condition of affairs was acquiesced in, though reluctantly, by the line officers, because no assimilation of rank was then contemplated for the staff officers above the grade of Commander. They were consoled by the reflection that if they should live to attain the rank of Captain, there would be no further controversy as far as they were concerned: and they would then be in the position, as regards the staff, to which they considered themselves entitled by virtue of the necessity, which in their opinion exists, in order to secure sound discipline, and to avoid the discussion of vexatious questions of precedence so disturbing to the harmony of the service.

On the other hand, it is frankly admitted that some of the older Surgeons and Paymasters under the operation of the regulation then existing might feel a natural reluctance to have a Commander junior to them on one day, pass them over by promotion, and gain a superior grade. The effect upon their feelings would be precisely the same as upon those of the senior Lieutenant already referred to when his juniors were advanced by the mere lapse of time, and for no necessity of the service, to a higher position than his own—an anomaly which he could not hope to overcome until he had wearily waited for, and obtained, his promotion to Commander, and had worked his way through that grade to a Captaincy. He could then—relieved from a load of mortified feelings, natural and irrepressible—congratulate himself that he had lived long enough to find himself in the relative position which he had held years before, which he had not forfeited through any fault, and which no devotion to duty could have retained for him.

The "extract from the regulations of the Navy," issued over the signature of the Honorable Secretary, under date of March 13th, 1863, sent a thrill of dismay throughout this class of line officers. They found the whole grade of Lieutenants ignored in the assimilation of rank, and that all Surgeons, Paymasters, and Engineers of five years' standing were to rank with Commanders, and after fifteen years, with Captains. It is believed that the provisions of that extract did not receive the concurrence of Rear-Admiral GOLDSBOROUGH, but was inserted in the code compiled by him, on the recommendation of other officers.

The operation of this regulation was to place the twentieth Surgeon, ranking with Captains, upon the Register of 1863, who stood next to the bottom of his list, above every Captain upon the active list recommended for promotion, save the senior. The Captain then standing second upon the list had been nearly thirty-eight years in service, while the Surgeon referred to had been barely twenty-six years. Thus the whole body of Surgeons ranking with Captains, at that period, except the junior, stood above the whole body of actual Captains, except the senior, and will maintain that position until the latter shall reach the grade of Commodore, unless the unequal operation of existing regulations shall be recinded.

The Surgeon ranking with Commanders, who then stood third from the bottom of his list, took rank above the Commander then standing twenty-sixth from the head, and forty-seventh from the bottom of his list; the latter having been thirty-one years in service, while the former had been only twenty-one years.

The fifth Surgeon from the bottom of the list of those ranking with Lieutenant-Commanders, took rank above every actual Lieutenant-Commander, the senior of whom had been upwards of twenty-four years in the service, while the Surgeon specified had been but four years and two months.

The junior Paymaster ranking with Captains took rank above every actual Captain except the senior, although the Captain standing second on the list had been nearly thirty-eight years in service, while the Paymaster had been not quite sixteen years.

The junior Paymaster ranking with Commanders took rank above five actual Commanders, although he had been

five years and five months in service, while the actual Commander next below him in rank had been twenty-four years and two months, and shortly afterwards was appointed Chief of a Bureau in the Navy Department.

The Paymaster on the list ranking with Lieutenant-Commanders, who stood fifth from the bottom, took rank over every actual Lieutenant-Commander, although he had been one year and four months in service, while the senior Lieutenant-Commander had been twenty-four years and two months, and who entered the Navy the same year the Paymaster was born.

The only Engineer ranking with Captains, took precedence over every Captain upon the active list; the former had been seventeen years and nine months in service, while the latter had been forty years and eight months, and was nearly ten years his senior in age. At the same time the junior Captain had been thirty-four years and nine months in service, and had been a Lieutenant four years and eight months at the date of the Engineer's first appointment.

The junior Engineer ranking with Commanders took precedence over the Commander then standing twentieth from the head, and fifty-third from the bottom of his list, though he had been somewhat less than fourteen years in the service, while the latter had been nearly thirty-one years.

The junior Engineer ranking with Lieutenant-Commanders took precedence over every actual Lieutenant-Commander, although the former had been six years and a half in the service, while the latter had been upwards of twenty-four years.

Every assistant Surgeon, Paymaster, or Engineer who may be promoted passes instantly over the grade of Lieutenant, and becomes equal in assimilated rank with officers eligible by law to the command of vessels of considerable force and great usefulness. And this, notwithstanding the fact that the Lieutenants would hold a superior rank, according to regulations, the day before such promotions might take place.

Amongst the papers sent to the Board for consideration, there was found an appeal to the Honorable Secretary of the Navy, signed by one hundred and sixteen (116) line officers, all of whom were then engaged in active operations afloat against the enemy, requesting him, in the most urgent manner, "as the guardian of their rights," to annul the "apportionment of rank" contemplated in the extract already referred to, and suggesting "as fair to all parties, and as conducive to the welfare of the Navy, that such a basis as the following may be adopted: Surgeons, Paymasters, and Chief Engineers to rank with, but not above Lieutenants by date of commission, and to rise with, but not over them!" This list of officers was composed of one acting Rear-Admiral, nine Captains, twenty-nine Commanders, forty-seven Lieutenant-Commanders, and thirty Lieutenants.

The question of assimilation of rank being presented to the Board by its instructions, which directed it to revise and modify, if, in its opinion, it should be advisable, the code already prepared, from which the "extract" issued March 3d, 1863, was made, it approached the subject with much deliberation; the members, being fresh from service afloat, were fully aware of the necessity for the adoption of some measure to harmonize the discordant, and, in some cases, hostile feeling prevailing in the service. So far as it was possible for them to do so, they endeavored to divest themselves of all class feelings or prejudices, and to act, as their judgment might indicate, with reference solely to the benefit of the service. Several weeks were consumed in the discussion of the plan recommended by them, and they went into a careful and elaborate examination of its practical working, which developed a harmony of age as compared with service not altogether anticipated by them. The result of their labor was adopted by them unanimously, and was presented to the Department, not as the best plan which might be devised, but as an improvement on any previously suggested, containing fewer anomalies, and which, if adopted, would, in their opinion, go far to allay the acrimonious feelings prevailing amongst many members of the various classes in the Navy.

In assigning precedence to the several classes, or grades of officers of which the Navy is composed, the object of a Navy was first considered. This, evidently, is for the purpose of conveying a marine army, or detachment, for purposes offensive and defensive, from point to point; guns, then, and a properly organized force to manœuvre them, and develop their power, is of the first importance; with this object in view, it has been, for many years, the policy of the Government to educate officers in the service and art of Naval warfare. To line officers was, therefore, assigned the first place. In the progress of time a new motor took the place of the wind, which was, until recently, the sole means used for moving the batteries containing the guns from place to place. This important element has introduced into the Navy a new class of officers, who, with their subordinates, and the powerful principle which they control, bear the same relation to steamships, as the wind bears to sailing vessels; as the latter cannot move without the wind, so the former cannot move without steam; without either, guns would be useless. Therefore it was considered that Engineers, from the importance of their duties with regard to the first object of a Navy, were entitled to rank next to officers of the line—or the fighting men. The medical officers were considered as entitled to the next place, because fighting men injured in action must be promptly attended to, if the efficiency of guns is to be relied upon in future conflicts. The feeding, clothing, and paying of the men though an object of great importance, was considered as subordinate to either of those already referred to, and therefore to Paymasters was assigned the third place in the staff corps. In this assignment the Board would disclaim any intention to disparage any corps; all are serviceable, and the Board bears cheerful testimony to the zeal and devotion with which each has borne its share in the arduous duties belonging to it, in the whole course of the long experience of its members.

For the commencement of the assimilation of rank, the Board adopted the period when each of the classes—line and staff—should become qualified for usefulness to the service. The Midshipman having finished his probationary course goes on board ship as an ensign, there to learn the practice of what he has been taught theoretically; after a period he undergoes an examination for promotion to the

grade of Master. In his new sphere he becomes, for the first time, practically useful and reliable as a watch officer.

The young Engineer, having advanced through two grades, and having passed as a First assistant, becomes competent to take charge of an engine, and eligible to appointment as Senior Engineer of vessels of the smaller class.

So with the Assistant-Surgeon and Assistant-Paymaster. Each has studied, and qualified himself for the position, and each is ready, or should be, to assume independent duties if they should be assigned to him.

Thus we have four young men starting upon their career at the same time, with equal rank assigned to each. It is not apparent that any particular favor should be shown to either in his advancement. On the contrary, if they run side by side, until they reach the highest grade provided for regular promotions, it is conceived that a greater degree of harmony will be obtained than has existed since the first order for the assimilation of rank was issued.

The Marines as a part of the fighting force of a ship, frequently assigned to great guns, under charge of their own officers, are considered as forming a portion of the line, and, in consequence, their officers, as line officers, with the precedence to them as such. The staff officers of Marines being selected by law from the line of the corps, are as competent for the discharge of military duties as though they belonged to the line, and in case of necessity, they would doubtless be required to act in a military capacity. In reality they are a part of the fighting class, taken to perform particular duties. On that account it was thought that they should precede, in a military organization, staff officers who, as a general rule, are incompetent to the discharge of any duty purely naval, or military.

Practically, however, the precedence of Marine officers is of but little importance to any of the naval staff corps. It is an unusual occurrence when a Marine officer goes to sea with a rank superior to Captain; the law assimilates him with Lieutenants in the Navy, and as a Captain would always be attached to a ship of the larger classes, the chances are greatly in favor of the presumption that all staff officers on board the same ship would be senior to him in rank. No staff officer of the Marine corps holds a rank higher than Major, or Lieutenant-Commander; to attain that rank he cannot be a very young man, and most of the naval staff officers of less rank than himself would be greatly his junior in years.

With these remarks, extended far beyond what was expected, or intended, the communications of the commanding and fleet officers of the several squadrons will now be examined.

We have now before us the comments of six officers in command of squadrons, and of five fleet officers of each of the grades of engineers, surgeons, and paymasters.

One rear-admiral expresses no opinion upon the question under discussion; but it would appear, from the nature of his remarks, that he is opposed to the assimilation of rank.

Another is in favor of granting it in a very qualified degree, and refers to the plan proposed by the Board as "liberal."

One acting rear-admiral is decidedly opposed to the whole system, "except on occasions of ceremony on shore;" but he expresses no opinion of the plan submitted to him.

Another regards the plan as "just to all parties, and well calculated to restore harmony to the service."

Another thinks that the subject has been "carefully and tenderly considered," and can imagine "no rule which can operate with more fairness."

One commodore considers "the proposed assimilation of rank equitable."

Of the six officers in command of squadrons, two express no opinion, and four refer to the plan in favorable terms.

Of the five fleet engineers, one expresses no opinion, one objects to it on grounds purely personal, one likes it so far as he understands it, one would be willing to accept it if it "would settle a much vexed question," and one expresses himself as "perfectly satisfied" with it.

The fleet engineers, therefore, may be considered in favor of the proposed plan.

Of the five fleet surgeons, three present decided objections, but one only upon grounds having reference "to the interests of the Navy;" one expresses no opinion, and one thinks the proposition "is eminently fair," though he does not consider that the Board adopted "a proper starting point."

The fleet surgeons, therefore, are opposed to the proposed plan.

Of the fleet paymasters, three express themselves unfavorably; one expresses no opinion, and one declares that the plan impresses him "most favorably."

The fleet paymasters, therefore, are not in favor of the plan proposed.

Of the seven fleet officers who express opinions in opposition to the proposition of the Board, but one adduces any reason based upon public interest for his dissent; and two of them intimate "suspicions" of the motives by which the Board was actuated.

The Board on Regulations takes this opportunity of stating that it has not, either collectively or individually, taken any steps to secure favor for its proposition in regard to the assimilation of rank. It has frankly given information to all parties who have sought it, but it has never arrayed itself as an advocate for the plan submitted by it to the Department. The officers composing the Board early determined not to permit themselves to be drawn into any controversy upon the point at issue, but to wait until detached from the duty assigned them, before they should assume any active part in the discussion of a subject, in which as individuals, they take the deepest interest.

They feel much gratification in having received messages of thanks, from several of the oldest paymasters, for their recommendation; and they have learned with pleasure that, at least, one of the oldest surgeons, and several of the oldest engineers, have expressed themselves in favor of it.

The Chief of the Bureau of Provisions and Clothing, and the Chief of the Bureau of Steam Engineering, have declared to the undersigned their opinion that the recommendation of the Board in regard to the proposed assimilation of rank would be acceptable to their corps.

The latter excepts, however, to the provisions for the two junior grades of assistant engineers, as giving them too

low a position; and the former is not in favor of some of the proposed regulations affecting officers of the staff, which, in the opinion of the Board, are necessary for discipline, and for the safety of ships.

I am, Sir, very respectfully, your obedient serv't,
(For the Board,) WM. ROGERS TAYLOR,
Captain U. S. N., and Presiding Officer of the late
Board on Regulations.
Hon. GIDEON WELLES, Secretary of the Navy,
Washington, D. C.

ARMY AND NAVY PERSONAL.

Assistant-Surgeon E. R. Cutler, of the Army of the Potomac, has received the appointment of Surgeon, to rank as Major.

AMONGST the officers who have lately left the Army of the Potomac are Generals Gregg, Potter, Ayres, Bragg, Mott and McAlister.

LIEUTENANT-Colonel Osborne, Division Inspector on Major-General Crawford's Staff, has been mustered out after serving over three years.

MAJOR George B. Drake, Assistant Adjutant-General, U. S. Volunteers, is announced as Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of the Gulf.

MAJOR-General W. F. Smith and Mrs. Smith and Colonel Nicholas Bowen and wife sailed for New Orleans on the 20th in the steamship *Morning Star*.

FIRST Lieutenant James A. Hopkins of the 17th U. S. Infantry, has been brevetted Captain for gallant conduct in one of the recent engagements before Richmond.

LIEUTENANT-Colonel James A. Cunningham, 32d Massachusetts Volunteers, has been brevetted by the President for gallantry at the battle of Peeble's Farm.

CAPTAIN J. Henry Sleeper of the 10th Massachusetts Light Battery, now in the Second Corps of the Army of the Potomac, has received the brevet rank of Major.

LIEUTENANT G. W. Bratton, One Hundred and Fourteenth Pennsylvania regiment, has been detailed to supervise telegraphic operations in the Army of the Potomac.

CAPTAIN Henry M. Lazelle, 8th U. S. Infantry, has been ordered to report to the Commanding General, Military Division of the Mississippi, at New Orleans, for assignment to duty.

MAJOR C. F. Davies, additional Paymaster U. S. A. of the Department of the South, is ordered North, he having been relieved by Major A. V. Elliott, Additional Paymaster, U. S. A.

LIEUTENANT-Colonel E. D. Kittos, Medical Inspector U. S. Army, having reported at Headquarters, Department of the Northwest, is announced as Medical Inspector for that Department.

The Seventeenth Massachusetts Volunteers have been increased to their maximum number, and Lieutenant-Colonel John F. Fellows, late of the same regiment, has been made its commanding officer.

COLONEL Silas P. Richmond, Third Massachusetts Volunteers, has been detailed by the Governor of Massachusetts, to act as Assistant Provost-Marshal for that State in South Carolina and Florida.

FIRST Lieutenant Peter Hease, Co. A., 7th New-York Heavy Artillery, has been sentenced by Court Martial to be reduced to the rank of a private soldier, to serve out the unexpired term of his regiment.

BREVET Major-General Ayres, commanding Second division, Fifth corps, left the Army last week on a twenty days' leave of absence. Brigadier-General Gwyn takes command of the division during his absence.

THE Navy Department has received intelligence of the death of Acting-Master Charles Thatcher, of Maine, commanding the *Gazelle*, attached to the Mississippi Squadron. He was murdered by guerrillas on Raccoon Island.

SUBSCRIPTIONS have been commenced in the Army of the James to erect a suitable monument over the grave of the late Major-General David B. Birney. The subject is presented to the troops in an order from the Commanding-General.

SO MUCH of General Orders No. 147, current series from Headquarters, Army of the James, as dismisses from the service 2d Lieutenant William B. Gray, 1st U. S. Colored Cavalry, has been revoked; it appearing that Lieutenant Gray acted under a misapprehension of his duties and rights.

FIRST Lieutenant Harry Egbert, 12th regiment, United States Infantry, has been appointed Captain by brevet, for gallant services at the battle of North Anna, Va., and has been appointed Major by brevet for gallant services at the battle of Bethesda Church, Va., both to date from August 1st, 1864.

BREVET Major J. B. Sinclair, late Assistant Adjutant-General of Brevet Brigadier-General Winthrop, has been ordered to join his regiment, the Fourteenth United States Infantry, at Fort Trumbull, Conn. Lieutenant J. B. Campbell succeeds Major Sinclair as Assistant-Adjutant-General.

THE following promotions and appointments to be field officers are announced by the Governor of Massachusetts: Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. Hooper to be colonel of Twenty-Fourth regiment; Major Albert Ordway to be lieutenant-colonel of the same regiment; Captain Frederick G. Pope to be major of cavalry.

SO MUCH of General Orders, No. 132, current series, from Headquarters, Department of the Gulf, as dismisses from the service of the United States, by sentence of a General Court Martial, 1st Lieutenant S. Gardner Lewis, 74th U. S. Colored Infantry, has been revoked, Lieutenant Lewis having been previously mustered out of the service by virtue of Extract 4, of Special Order No. 215, current series, from the same Headquarters.

THE following officers have been dismissed the service:—Captain Charles H. Willet, Co. H., 2d La. Cavalry; Lieut.

Colonel C. E. G. Horn, 65th regiment, U. S. Colored Infantry; First Lieutenant Leonard Hein, Regimental quartermaster, 65th U. S. Colored Infantry; First Lieutenant Robert H. Chauborn, Co. B. 84th U. S. Colored Infantry; Captain John W. Migrath, 25th U. S. Colored Infantry; William F. Lynch, 25th U. S. Colored Infantry; Second Lieutenant August Kruger, Co. G., 97th U. S. Colored Infantry; Lieutenant E. H. Dunning, 7th U. S. Colored Artillery (Heavy); First Lieutenant Weston E. Allen, Co. F., 9th New-York Artillery; Major Harrison M. Hurt, 14th Kentucky Cavalry.

THE following officers are announced upon the Staff of Major-General N. J. T. Dana, commanding Department of Mississippi:—Lieutenant-Colonel T. H. Harris, Assistant Adjutant-General; Colonel Herman Lieb, Assistant Inspector-General; Colonel Van E. Young, Provost-Marshal-General; Surgeon G. S. Kemble, Medical Director; Major J. O. Pierce, Judge-Advocate; Major Charles Mann, Assistant Chief of Artillery; Captain L. S. Van Vliet, Chief Quartermaster; Captain F. W. Fox, Assistant Adjutant-General; Captain J. W. Miller, Assistant Adjutant-General; Captain G. H. Dana, Aide-de-Camp; Captain E. L. Sproat, Aide-de-Camp; Captain J. M. Cullers, Acting Chief of Ordnance; Lieutenant A. H. Holgate, Chief Engineer.

IN assuming command of the new Twenty-fifth Army corps, Major-General Weitzel announces the following Staff:—Lieutenant-Colonel R. H. Jackson, Assistant Inspector-General and Chief of Artillery; Lieutenant-Colonel A. C. Warberg, Acting Assistant Inspector-General; Surgeon A. J. H. Buzzel, Medical-Director; Major A. H. Stevens, Jr., Provost-Marshal; Captain W. V. Hutchings, Chief Quartermaster; Captain C. M. Robins, Chief Commissary Subsistence; Captain G. F. Howard, Ordnance Officer; Captain D. D. Wheeler, Assistant Adjutant-General; Captain Lewis Weitzel, Aide-de-Camp; Lieutenant E. E. Graves, Aide-de-Camp; Lieutenant H. B. Fitch, Aide-de-Camp; Lieutenant Wm. P. Shreve, Commissary of Musters; Lieutenant H. M. Phillips, Assistant Provost-Marshal; Lieutenant C. O. Phillips, Chief of Ambulances; Lieutenant Benj. Thomas, Acting Assistant-Quartermaster.

MAJOR-General Ord, commanding Twenty-fourth Army corps, has announced the following Staff:—Brigadier-General R. S. Foster, Chief of Staff; Major Theodore Read, Assistant Adjutant-General; Major P. Ord, Assistant Adjutant-General; Major S. S. Seward, Aide-de-Camp; Captain H. G. Brown, Aide-de-Camp; Lieutenant T. G. Welles, First Connecticut cavalry, Assistant-Aide-de-Camp; Captain A. B. Sharpe, Aide-de-Camp and Assistant Provost-Marshal; Surgeon Livingston Quick, Medical-Director; Surgeon J. M. Rice, Medical-Inspector; Major C. C. Abell, Tenth New York, heavy artillery, Chief of Artillery and Acting Assistant Inspector-General; Lieutenant-Colonel J. B. Howard, Chief Quartermaster; Major Nelson Plato, Acting Chief Quartermaster; Lieutenant H. F. Gerriah, Acting Assistant-Quartermaster; Captain M. A. Hill, Chief Commissary of Subsistence; Lieutenant C. W. Welles, Assistant-Commissary of Subsistence; Lieutenant D. T. Wells, Commissary of Musters; Captain D. P. Barnard, Chief of Ambulances.

THE following are the first appointments of officers in the new First Veteran Corps. They date from the 21st Dec.:—Colonel—Carr B. White; Lieutenant-Colonel—Charles Bird; Majors—Ira Paillof, Charles A. Johnson, O. F. Middleton, Lyman S. Wilcox; Captains—W. H. Harries, S. W. Bonsall, Wm. McConihe, Savorian Beaulin, J. Mara, Edward H. Root, Loring Farr, William Simpson, A. H. Duganne, Rollin C. Ward, C. J. Isley, George W. Connory, H. N. Smith, W. C. Pennywill, P. P. Moriarty, Eugene F. Warren; First Lieutenants—Gustavus A. Van Brausen, Daniel C. Stoddard, B. F. Wickerthan, Patrick O. Kane; Second Lieutenants—J. Ellendorf, Joseph Klempfield, James Smith, Fred. R. Jackson, John H. Benham, Sampson D. Stiles, John W. Eckles, Wm. McLaughlin. The following additional appointments of officers have been announced:—Colonels—Oliver Wood, B. F. Gour; Majors—Lewis R. Stegman, Samuel D. Hopper; Captains—Walter S. Payne, Milton Mills, A. P. Butler; First Lieutenants—Martin R. Connolly, J. M. Waterman, W. F. Still, J. W. Lord, S. F. Dubois, D. Irwin, H. A. Maxwell, Paul Hartley; Second Lieutenants—Joseph J. Howard, Charles G. Gordon, R. F. Holfkill.

THE HOWARD AMBULANCE.

SURGEON B. HOWARD, U. S. Army, upon the staff of Major-General MEADE, has recently invented a new and improved ambulance, which deserves the attention of all who are interested in the proper care of the wounded in battle. It seems to us in every respect eminently adapted to its use, and, beyond doubt, better than any other that has been brought into use in this country. The following are the chief features of this ambulance:—

A frame separate from the body of the vehicle and resting on four stanchions is placed within the body; is of the same length, but not so wide as the body by about two inches, which leaves an interspace of about an inch on either side between it and the body. This space is occupied on each side by two lateral semi-elliptical steel springs, with a rubber block in the centre of the arc.

The stanchions supporting this frame also stand on a similar kind of spring, so arranged that no upward motion communicated to the body of the vehicle can be propagated to the frame, as a counter-force is at once established by the perpendicular spring which is capable only of a downward motion. When this is very violent, the force is received by a block of soft rubber, and in this way the frame is equally balanced on all sides.

Into this frame are fixed transverse seats, which may be either permanent or movable. At the back of each seat is a wooden roller rising about a quarter or half an inch above it, on which, if desired, cushioned beds slide, just clearing the cushions of the seats, and running in rabbits in the wooden frame. When the beds are not needed for severe cases they slide into a small compartment beneath the floor of the ambulance on counter sunk steel rollers, where they are protected from dust and dirt.

A strong tailgate is substituted for the door so commonly used, the upper part being padded so as to form an easy back for the two back seats. For the old fashioned water-cask, which is always shaking about and getting out of order, the Dr. has substituted a tank lined with zinc, which slides into a grooved bed and is made fast by a catch. A secure rack and clasp is also provided for stretchers, preventing all motion and rattling during progression of the ambulance. There is also an arrangement by which a fractured limb can be suspended in a sort of box-splint, and simple and gentle oscillation be substituted for the violent jolting heretofore suffered in such cases.

The entire ambulance is made about six inches lower, without lowering the axle. This facilitates greatly the necessary attention demanded by patients, such as feeding, administering medicines, &c., when on long marches.

Its chief advantage may be summed up as follows:—It is lower; it provides seven corner seats situated transversely; or four patients may be seated and one lying; or two may be lying and one be seated, so that an attendant may be constantly with the patients. The arrangement for securing easy motion seems perfect. Badly wounded men can be picked up from the field, be slid on the litter into the ambulance, and carried right into the hospital without any further shifting. The stretchers are carried more securely. The water-tank on being fastened is motionless during progression, hence not likely to get out of order.

In addition, it possesses a very important military advantage; whereas in the common ambulance the body is occupied by nine stanchions, there are only four in this, and these so close to the side as not to be in the way, leaving the entire body of the ambulance free for the transportation of hospital files, medical and hospital stores, &c. After our principal engagements there has always been a great complaint about the absence of proper supplies during the first few days. This is always caused by the detention of hospital wagons at the rear, to give clear road to ammunition trains and troops. By substituting this style of ambulance for those now in use, a sufficient quantity of supplies could always be on hand with the advance column to supply all the necessary demands for several days, and thus one of the chief causes of suffering at such times would be avoided.

This desideratum is of still greater importance in the cavalry service in which hospital wagons can rarely accompany the commands in their rapid expeditions.

OBITUARY.

LIEUTENANT HENRY H. GRANGER.

DIED, at City Point, Va., on Sunday, October 30, of wounds received in the battle of Hatcher's Creek, HENRY H. GRANGER, Senior First Lieutenant Tenth Massachusetts Battery, aged 47 years.

In the death of this gallant soldier, not only the battery, which he so faithfully served, but the whole division sustains severe loss. Inheriting the loyal spirit of his grandfather, Captain JOHN GRANGER (who, in former times of our country's peril, gathered a company of sixty minute men in New Braintree and towns adjoining and marched to Cambridge at the call of General Washington), he but renewed the old record, with others of the same lineage. Upon the day of his last battle, a great grandson of the old patriot, Captain D. A. GRANGER, at the time commanding the Eleventh Massachusetts regiment, fell mortally wounded, while passing the colors from the color-bearer, who had fallen, to another. Lieutenant GRANGER rode over to his fallen kinsman, and promised to send a stretcher for his removal, but was directly ordered into action, and soon after received his own death wound. Captain GRANGER's men endeavored to carry him from the field, but his agony was intense, and he told them to leave him to his fate. During the battle of Hatcher's Creek, the Tenth Battery was exposed, at one time unsupported, to fearful odds, and won special praise for its signal daring and efficiency. It was then commanded by Lieutenant GRANGER. As an officer, he won the confidence of the men to a remarkable degree, and always manifested lively interest in whatever concerned the welfare or comfort of the company. The most obscure private felt that in him he would always find a ready listener, and one as willing to do justice to him as to any of a higher station. But not for goodness of heart alone was he distinguished. In the din and confusion of battle no officer could be braver; seemingly destitute of all regard for his personal safety, he was always to be seen in the thickest of the fight, and as the danger became more imminent, his coolness and good judgment shone out the clearer. In his last battle, where he yielded up his life for his country, these qualities came out most grandly to view. When the impetuous attack of the Rebels behind obliged the cannoners to turn their guns and fire to the rear, and when our infantry were breaking, he rode up, in a shower of bullets, and gave the characteristic order, "Fire whatever you've got into the woods! We can whip them alone!" Then, as the retreating line came wavering past the guns, and the Colonel commanding declared he could not rally his men, he drew his sword, and, riding forward, called upon them to "rally and save the guns!" When the ammunition was all gone, he remained, mounted, till every gun was limbered and brought off in safety. Then he led the battery in a desperate run for life between the two skirmish lines, exposed to the fire of sharpshooters the whole distance, and put the guns into position in the field below. Here a stray shot struck him, and he fell mortally wounded. It was the hardest blow on us yet, and made the darkness of the night, then closing in, more full of gloom. His memory we shall always cherish as that of a friend, and ever as that of a brave soldier. The tribute paid by the Chief of Artillery to his bravery, in special order of thanks, we feel was richly deserved, and our grief at his untimely end is tempered by the reflection that he met his fate where the true soldier ever wishes to die, if die he must, leading his men against the foe.

While lying in hospital, a valued friend in the service, at City Point, was sent for, and remained by him while he could. After bidding this friend "good bye," he called him back. "Tell Uncle," said he, "I am not afraid to die; I was ready to obey my last order." His body was embalmed and brought home to his native town of Hardwick, Mass., to rest amid the scenes of his boyhood. Long will his memory be green in the hearts of his friends and townsmen, who delight to do him honor. His surviving son, Lieutenant LOUIS E. GRANGER, is in his country's service, on the staff of Brigadier-General ULLMANN, at Morgantown, La. M. C. A.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The Editor of this JOURNAL will always be glad to receive from officers in the two services, correspondence and general communications of a character suited to its columns. It is necessary that the name of the writer should, in all cases, accompany his communications, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

Officers are especially requested to give us early notification of all personal matters of general interest; of the movements of vessels of casualties among officers; and military and naval events.

The Editor will, at all times, be pleased to respond, in these columns, to enquiries in regard to tactical and other matters.

The subscription price of THE ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL is SIX DOLLARS a year, or THREE DOLLARS for six months, invariably in advance. Remittances may be made in United States funds, or Quartermaster's, Paymaster's or other drafts, which should be made payable to the order of the Proprietor, W. C. Church.

Subscribers who fail to receive their paper promptly, will please give immediate notice of the fact.

Subscribers ordering the address of their paper to be changed, should be careful to give their previous address.

The Editor does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion, in communications addressed to the JOURNAL.

The postage on the JOURNAL is twenty-five cents a year, payable quarterly in advance, at the office where received.

All communications should be addressed to the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL, New York.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

WE know of no English work on the small sword that can be called good.

SIGNAL CORPS.—We believe that this corps is considered as part of the Regular Army.

AIDES-DE-CAMP to a Brigadier-General must be taken from subalterns of the line.

WE decline passing an opinion upon an "official interpretation of sec. 11, act of July 17, 1862."

HOSPITAL STEWARDS cannot be reduced to the ranks. See par. 895, Army Regulations of 1863.

UNDER present regulations, two years' service in the Army or Navy exempts one from the National draft.

T. N. B.—The company commander has a right to designate which one of his sergeants shall be 1st sergeant without consulting the regimental commander. See par. 80, General Regulations of 1863.

DIAMOND.—We cannot undertake to pass an opinion upon decisions of the Pay Department. Its officers are just and competent, and you must abide by their decisions unless you see fit to appeal to the Secretary of War.

NO. 8.—An officer competent to appoint a court of inquiry upon an application of the accused, is also competent to deny said application, if, in his opinion, it would not be to the interests of the service to order such court.

20TH CONN. VOL.—There is no authorized system of whistle-signals for the use of skirmishers. Several such systems have been proposed, and they may be used in particular regiments, but the War Department has never recognized them.

SUBSCRIBER.—By law, the President has a right to dismiss any officer of the Army for any cause which he may deem proper. It is not material whether this power be exercised by "dropping an officer from the rolls," mustering him out, discharging or dismissing him.

SPECIAL DUTY.—An officer who is not on duty with his company or regiment, would be reported on *special duty* if he were on duty immediately connected with his proper command; for example, an acting adjutant on duty at a post or in the battalion of which his company composed a component part; but, if he were detached entirely from his company, regiment, or post on duty, he would be on "*detached service*."

SUBSCRIBER.—"Rank and file" means *non-commissioned officers and privates*. The 1st sergeant is not the proper person to report officers as present or absent at dress parades. This is the duty of the Adjutant. Nor is it usual for the 1st sergeant to report the number of men present, but to report such a company as "present or accounted for," or so many men "absent," and the sum total of absentees from the battalion is reported by the Adjutant to the commanding officer of the parade.

BREVET RANK is conferred by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, as an honorary distinction or reward for gallant actions or meritorious conduct. Until within the present year it has always been held that brevet rank could only be conferred as an honorary distinction *after* the Senate had advised and consented thereto. No office is created or filled when brevet rank is conferred, and, therefore, strictly speaking, there can be no such thing as a brevet appointment. The law which authorizes brevets to be conferred upon volunteer officers, provides that such rank shall not entitle them to any increase of pay or emoluments. But, under the laws authorizing brevets to be conferred in the Regular Army, the officer is entitled to the pay, etc., of his brevet rank *when assigned to duty* (by the President) and having a command equal to his brevet rank.

THE British Army and Navy Gazette of Dec. 17th, says:—"We have been informed that the action between the *Alabama* and *Kearsarge* made a deeper impression upon the mind of the French Emperor than upon the head of our own War Department, and that this action convinced him that rifled-guns of comparatively small bore were no match for the heavy Dahlgren and Rodman-guns then mounted, or being mounted, in vessels of the *Kearsarge* class. In consequence, the manufacture of 6-ton steel rifled-guns was delayed, and since then the French Government have, it is said, two of Captain BLAKELY'S 11-inch steel-guns, two heavy guns from Sir W. ARMSTRONG and Co., and two or more heavy guns from America, all muzzle-loaders, the intention being to adopt heavy guns for the French Navy, and gradually to remove the present 30-pounder and 50-pounder hooped guns from their ships."

THE Postmaster-General has issued an order to postmasters, directing that all mail matter intended for Sherman's army shall be sent by way of New York.

U. S. ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1864.

RETROSPECT AND PROSPECT.

IT is a practice made legitimate by editorial custom, if not suggested by any inherent necessity or "fitness of things," to review the public history of each year at its close. No logic, indeed, outside of the almanac, can show why things terrestrial should end or pause on the 31st of December, and start afresh upon the 1st of January, especially as Gregorian and other "tinkerings" with the calendar have rendered it doubtful whether the years do not begin at the wrong time. And particularly in military affairs, so far from turning a clean leaf on New Year's Day, it is obvious that spring—March, April, or May—is the ordinary commencement of their year. In our war, however, amongst other notions of the art military got rid of, we have now abolished the habit of going into "winter quarters." There is to be, henceforth, no opening, no closing, of the general campaign; and the 1st of January is as good a day for retrospect as another.

A review of the prominent events of the military year is a mingled story of success and failure. The latter commenced, early in February, with WISTAR'S cavalry dash on Richmond from Fortress Monroe, and the supporting demonstration of MEADE across the Rapidan. Next followed the ill-starred Florida expedition, with the defeat at Olustee. Next came FORREST'S raid through Kentucky, with the affair at Paducah and the horrible massacre at Fort Pillow. Next, HOKE'S capture of Plymouth and Washington, in North Carolina. Last and worst of all, the wretched expedition up the Red River. Then, in May, opened the two great campaigns under GRANT and SHERMAN respectively to Richmond and Atlanta. The former, though conducted with the greatest perseverance by its leader, and the most admirable gallantry by his troops, was destined to meet a weary and avenging series of repulses—at Fort Darling, at Cold Harbor, at the outworks of Petersburg, on the Jerusalem Road, near Burnside's Mine, and at Hatcher's Run. Add, finally, EARLY'S invasion of Maryland to the very gates of Baltimore and Washington, and our defeat at Monocacy; the supplementary raid of cavalry into Pennsylvania, and the burning of Chambersburg; the defeat and retreat of SIGEL'S Army in the Shenandoah, and the defeat of HUNTER.

But, casting out the lesser items on both sides of the account, the credit column of the year's ledger contains great victories enough to far out-balance all the year's disasters. First comes A. J. SMITH'S handsome capture of Fort De Russey; next, the surrender of Forts Morgan and Gaines, with all their contents, after FARRAGUT'S glorious sea-fight in Mobile Bay. Next, SHERIDAN'S brilliant campaign in the Shenandoah Valley, and the victories of Winchester, Fisher's Hill, and Cedar Creek. Next, the matchless campaign of SHERMAN against Atlanta, illustrated by a brilliant chain of battle-fields at every point on the long route, by the terrible punishment inflicted on the enemy at Peachtree Creek and Atlanta; and, at last, by the triumphant entrance of that general into the streets of the long-sought city. Then follows the defeat of PRICE in Missouri; then, SCHOFIELD'S skillful battle at Franklin; then THOMAS'S glorious victory at Nashville. Last, and grandest of all, the late campaign of the "conqueror of Atlanta" through the broad State of Georgia, culminating in the assault of McAllister, and the ever-memorable siege and fall of Savannah.

The retrospect is not perfect until the essential difference between our victories and those of the enemy is observed. His were chiefly temporary; ours are chiefly permanent. FORREST raided through Kentucky and captured some of our outposts. Kentucky, with Fort Pillow and the rest, are ours to-day. HOOKER took Little Washington and Plymouth; they are ours to-day. Maryland and Pennsylvania, and all the Lower Shenandoah, thanks to GRANT and SHERIDAN, are safe and sure in our hands, and the good people of Washington, Baltimore, and Harrisburgh, now laugh over the memory of their summer trepidation. The Florida and the Louisiana expeditions were alone clear triumphs for the enemy; even the Virginia campaign gives him little

cause for congratulation. Richmond, indeed, is not ours, as the entire North expected it to be to-day. But, whereas one year ago the Army of the Potomac was overpowered at Culpepper, now it lies, patient, but dangerous, around Richmond and Petersburg. The sanguinary checks on the long road thither, and the loss of so much of the old Army, have been powerless to stay its march against the enemy's capital, and, with an army of fresh troops, GRANT holds his antagonist at bay, and will not let him slip.

But ours are clean victories. Forts De Russey, Morgan and Gaines are still ours. Mobile Bay is ours. Missouri and Tennessee are ours. The Shenandoah Valley is ours from Harper's Ferry to Strasburgh, and the enemy's adjoining territory lies waste and desolate. Atlanta, alone, has been wrenched from us. But it was not abandoned till all that made it Atlanta was gone, and then it was only exchanged for the greater prize of Savannah, which is and ever will be in the list of Union cities.

The enemy, also, has suffered irreparably during the year in all his resources. First, in his loss of forts and in his loss of important cities and of regions of country won back to our dominion. Next, in the waste and desolation of tracts like those in Northern Virginia and Eastern Tennessee. Next, in the capture or burning of great supplies of food and forage of all kinds. Next, in the capture of material of war, cannon, small arms, and ammunition, and in the destruction of mills, factories, salt-works, arsenals and the like, as in Georgia. In SHERIDAN'S brief campaign, the enemy lost over 100 guns; in THOMAS'S Nashville campaign, 49; and at Savannah alone, SHERMAN captured 152. At Mobile, in Missouri, and elsewhere, our captures of guns and ammunition swell the amount to four-fold what the enemy can boast as his prizes.

Most important of all, in men, the year's work has terribly shattered the enemy. LEE'S Army has been cut down by his long campaign till it is capable of little more than defensive operations. EARLY'S, originally small, was reduced by nearly half in its Shenandoah exploits, and remains quiescent. PRICE escaped from Missouri with a terrible loss in his troops. THOMAS'S admirable battles with HOOD cost the latter 13 general officers and more than 16,000 men. SHERMAN'S Atlanta campaign fairly broke JOHNSTON'S fine Army into fragments, and forced recuperation with raw recruits and conscripts. In his march to Savannah, every available man, graybeard and boy, from Georgia, from South Carolina, and from Alabama, was brought out to the front, and SHERMAN bowled them out of his path like tenpins. After SHERMAN'S march, what avails it for the Richmond *Whig*, by an elaborate jugglery with figures, to declare that there are still 460,000 fighting men to be called into the service of the Confederacy?

Pleasant, upon the whole, as is the year's retrospect, still brighter is the prospect. Long ago, GRIERSON, having marched his cavalry from Tennessee to Louisiana, declared the Confederacy "a shell, with nothing in it." All the events of the last month are verifying that pithy description. Should we hereafter meet disaster, there are resources enough in the North with which to furnish and equip another million of men; and, in that event, those resources would be poured out more freely, even, than now in the hour of success. But, what prospect has the South? In the veteran columns of SHERMAN it sees its destruction, as the whole North sees in them our hope. SHERMAN'S is an Army of veterans, with the steadiness and experience which must always give tried soldiers the advantage over recruits. Thanks to SHERMAN'S skill in manœuvre, he has brought his men without waste or careless destruction to the seaboard. They are in high spirits, bold and confident, with sublime faith in their leader, in their own constancy, and in the justice of their cause. GRANT can hold LEE fast at Petersburg. PRICE is defeated in Missouri. SHERIDAN altogether overmatches EARLY. BRECKINRIDGE is well mated in East Tennessee. And THOMAS drives HOOD easily back into Alabama. What is to hinder SHERMAN'S triumphant march? That general keeps his own counsel, and we need not claim to entirely fathom them. But, directly before him, lie Augusta and Charleston. It is by the success of the past that we estimate the possibilities of the future; and the extraordinary results of the now perfected campaign originated at Atlanta by the captor of Atlanta, are the chief harbinger of the New

Year. Glorious as it has been, the march from Chattanooga to Savannah may prove but the mere prologue to the magnificent drama of 1865.

THE FRUITS OF SHERMAN'S CAMPAIGN.

Two months ago, the victorious Army of the Mississippi, lying at Atlanta, the city just won by a brilliant campaign, was startled to find its old opponent recovered from his defeat, raiding on its lines of supply, and threatening to force it entirely out of Georgia. Had our intensest enemy at that time been asked what was the utmost he could fear—had the most ardent patriot been called upon to tell the utmost he could hope—had military critics related what possible feat of arms, what stroke of genius would reflect the greatest credit on the Union banners—the answer would have been, the extrication of the forces at Atlanta, the defeat and rout of HOOD's Army, and the march of SHERMAN from the mountains to the seaboard. Precisely those results have been accomplished. The whole country has felt their cheering and inspiring influence, nor is there any fear that the general exhilaration will be too great. If New York is only half as jubilant as Richmond is despondent; if we give to our Western Armies and their commanders only as much praise as Europe, habitually hostile and suspicious with regard to our military prowess, already showers upon them, even before she knows the whole story of their achievements, it is all that the heroes of Atlanta and Savannah will ask.

But it so happens that some persons do not understand how anything can be great, unless it is violent—that a campaign is a success unless so badly managed as to barely escape being a failure: as some people do not consider daybreak a great affair because it makes no noise. And the capture of Atlanta and the capture of Savannah, being both accomplished by pure generalship, by skill of manoeuvre, do not receive at some hands the credit which they gain at others. General FOSTER, however, appreciates their character and merit, when he pronounces them "almost bloodless victories, fairly won." It is easy to see difficulties in the capture of cities when they are too great to be overcome. It is not hard to see how there are obstacles at, for example, to capturing Wilmington, or Mobile. Fort McAllister appeared a very easy work to carry, though Fort Fisher was not. But at all events, we can all understand from the fruits actually reaped by a triumph, what its magnitude has been; and let us, therefore, enumerate the results of the second Georgia campaign.

The first result which strikes us is the change in the position of SHERMAN's Army. At Atlanta, its situation was quite undesirable. A great part of its effective force was required for keeping open the railroad to Chattanooga, and thence to Nashville. That detail left an effective force in HOOD's front not very much greater than his own. But now, of course, the long railroad line to Chattanooga is abandoned, and our outposts called in. Even with these garrisons, our communications could not be kept intact. Experience showed that cavalry parties could constantly raid upon that line of supply, so wonderfully protracted, and expose us to constant peril. Now our base is at Savannah, and our supplies sure till the Atlantic dries up, or our fleets are driven from its waters.

In extricating the Army from its precarious position at Atlanta, SHERMAN has performed another service. He has put his Army into coöperation with that of GRANT. Before, these two Armies were often out of communication, and always out of coöperation. SHERMAN has now accomplished his mission in Georgia. But what can hinder him from going into South Carolina, or into North Carolina. And the moment he marches into the Carolinas, he becomes a disturbing influence in the campaign of LEE. Indeed, he is so already. LEE was forced to detach HAMPTON with a part of his cavalry from his own command, to defend Southern Georgia. The Northward march of SHERMAN will still further interfere with LEE's plans; and it is not too much to hope that we may at last find our two greatest Armies crushing the military power of the Rebellion between them, as between the upper and neither millstone.

Suppose HOOD had remained in front of Atlanta, it must have been SHERMAN's task to press him slowly back to Macon or Augusta, and thence to the seaboard. We would have been many a long month

in getting him to Macon, and a time difficult to calculate in pushing him to Savannah; meanwhile, our Army would have found its communications constantly cut, its rear and flanks harassed by FORREST's powerful corps of cavalry, a strong army daily increased by Georgia militia in our front, disputing every step. How long our advance would have continued is a matter of some speculation; but should we have reached Savannah, at last, it must have been with an Army worn out by fatigue, reduced by hard marching, by the want of supplies, by sickness, as well as by the loss in battle. Savannah would surely have more tardily surrendered to such a force than to the fresh and strong columns which now possess it. But, what it might have been difficult or impossible to accomplish as originally designed, SHERMAN's strategy has brilliantly effected. On the one hand, HOOD's Army is more thoroughly beaten than if he had been driven from Atlanta to Savannah: and SHERMAN has gained the seaboard in better condition than when he started.

Nor are the material results of this great campaign of slight importance. First, those accomplished by SHERMAN with his own Army. He has bisected the Confederacy. He has cut off the possibility of HOOD's Army joining LEE's, while he has saved himself the liberty of joining GRANT's. He has absolutely severed Confederate railroad communication between East and West, tearing up and twisting no less than two hundred miles of track, rail by rail, making repair impossible. On his march, he destroyed many depôts, burned many mills and factories, useful to the enemy's armies, captured or caused the destruction of not a little ammunition and other supplies, "and consumed," as he says, "stores and provisions that were essential to LEE's and HOOD's armies." At Savannah, he captured by assault Fort McAllister, with guns, garrison, and stores complete. By siege, he captured a city of twenty thousand inhabitants, with three strong forts, more than a thousand prisoners, one hundred and fifty guns, thirteen locomotives in good order, one hundred and ninety cars, a very large supply of ammunition and materials of war, three steamers, and thirty-two thousand bales of cotton, safely stored in warehouses. The enemy was forced to destroy his Navy Yard, two powerful iron-clads, some smaller vessels, and a vast amount of supplies and military property. More than fifteen thousand slaves have been gathered into SHERMAN's lines, some of whom will be found useful in the Army. Such are the direct results of the capture of Savannah, and the greatest, perhaps, are in prospect. Meanwhile, that excellent soldier, THOMAS, has handsomely accomplished his share of the task, in defeating and routing HOOD, and inflicting on him a loss of thirteen general officers, more than sixteen thousand men, and forty-nine guns.

We must not forget to note at how little cost these triumphs have been purchased. The whole campaign from Atlanta into Savannah, probably did not cost more than 1,000 or 1,500 men—the price we often pay for a reconnaissance. THOMAS's losses were, probably, less by 10,000 than those of the enemy, his being more than two to our one. SHERMAN's campaign was so conducted that, to use his own language, the Army arrived "in splendid order and equal to anything. The supplies were abundant. Our march was most agreeable, and we were not at all molested by guerrillas." So far from the march costing anything in material, it more than paid itself. Our troops lived on the country, and got horses and wagons in plenty. "We have not lost a wagon on the trip, but have gathered up a large supply of negroes, mules, and horses, &c., and our teams are in far better condition than when we started." And it appears, therefore, that we must add to the other results of this fine campaign, a lesson on the true way of making war in this country.

Is Richmond besieged? In the Richmond *Whig* of this month mention is made of there being then on trial by militia court-martial certain printers who had been "caught while attempting to escape to the 'Yankees.'" They were to be tried for desertion and as liable on conviction to be shot by an institution called the "Printer's Guard," though "exempt by act of Congress from military service," and not belonging to any military organization." A later paper speaks of the parties as sentenced to

imprisonment. The *Whig* remarks:—"There is a popular fallacy, which is in a fair way to be exploded by this trial, that desertion is an offence which can only be committed by persons belonging to the land or naval forces." We think a great many notions about law, civil and military, which had extensively prevailed in the civilized world, have appeared in the South to be exploded fallacies. We have not heard of any law of the Confederacy declaring its citizens, who should go into or remain within the enemy's lines, deserters. This trial by court-martial, and by military law, of civilians, can only be equivalent to a confession that the State of Virginia, or, at least Richmond, is in that critical situation known in continental Europe, as *state of siege*, when all persons present are regarded as mere material for the defence of the place.

An entertaining letter from the Washington bureau of the New York *Herald*, conveyed, on Thursday last, the following intelligence, which, whether true or false, will be of great interest to the Army:—

"It is reported, on pretty high authority, that, on the evening preceding his first day's attack upon General HOOD, General THOMAS received an order from General GRANT relieving him of command, and directing him to turn over his forces to an officer whose name is suppressed for prudential reasons. General THOMAS immediately telegraphed back to the Lieutenant-General and the Secretary of War, asking that the order might be suspended, as he had made all his arrangements for moving out of his works the next morning at daylight and attacking the enemy. He added that he cared nothing for himself, and would ask to be relieved the moment his campaign against HOOD should be ended; but that for the sake of his Army and the public service he did not wish to turn over to another for execution the plans and dispositions which he had made for the next morning's action. Secretary STANTON—the Lieutenant-General being absent—immediately telegraphed back to him to retain his command; and the results of this wise retention are now before the country. It appears that General GRANT was dissatisfied with General THOMAS; first, for having fallen back from Franklin; and, secondly, for his failure to promptly attack HOOD when that Rebel chief attempted the siege of Nashville. General GRANT now rejoices that 'Captain Slow-and-Sure,' as his soldiers call THOMAS, was not deprived of the opportunity of adding this brightest jewel to his dearly-earned crown of fame."

While confessing that this bit of gossip is news to us, we would also express our belief that it is not founded on fact. General SHERMAN at Atlanta undertook the double task of defeating HOOD and capturing Savannah. He could not furnish his personal presence to both his Armies, divided as they were to be by more than 500 miles. But he selected the very best officer among his splendid array of subordinates, to command his second Army. He furnished him the plan, assigned the troops, and all he asked was the proper execution of his designs. Had THOMAS been defeated by the lack of troops or of available strength for opposing HOOD, SHERMAN would have been in no small degree responsible.

But SHERMAN selected THOMAS not for his slowness, or quickness. He selected him for his soldierly excellence, and because he would surely prove equal to either HOOD or BEAUREGARD or both combined. After such a deliberate choice of his men, SHERMAN's plans for repulsing HOOD might have been entirely overthrown by the removal of the officer appointed to carry them out. Nobody would recognize better than GRANT the peril it might throw into SHERMAN's campaign to remove his right-hand man. It is true that THOMAS' Army was now entirely independent of SHERMAN's control, and will probably continue to be so. But the latter's judgment in the choice of men would receive nowhere prompt seconding than at the hands of GRANT. And the glorious result of THOMAS' campaign proves that the right man was selected for the task. Doubtless we shall get a denial "on pretty high authority," as the *Herald* correspondent says, of this singular story.

An official dispatch from the Secretary of War, published elsewhere, announces the successful result of the raid undertaken by our forces in East Tennessee against the Rebel saltworks in Southwestern Virginia. We are dependent, thus far, for accounts of the movement, upon the Rebel papers, extracts from which we give on another page, in addition to those embodied in the Secretary's dispatches.

The London *Spectator* concludes a late article on General SHERMAN's march, written on receipt of American news now four weeks old, with the emphatic declaration:—"There is not a general now alive in Europe who, if SHERMAN succeeds, will not recognize the addition of one more name to the short list of first-class leaders of armies."

IMPORTANT ADMISSIONS CONCERNING THE BRITISH NAVY.

THE following important article showing the necessity of an entire revolution in the British navy we copy from the *London Evening Mail*:

The Admiralty persists in sending to the Mediterranean, as flag-ship of the Admiral in command, a line of battle ship which could not possibly take a place in a line of battle, which could be undoubtedly knocked to pieces by a little iron-clad gunboat, and which, though utterly unserviceable, requires the largest crew and the greatest expenditure known to our navy. The *Victoria* is an immense three-decker, carrying 121 guns, and a complement of about 1,100 men. Her engines are of 1,000 horse-power, she is finely built, is a new vessel, and would, ten years ago, have represented a most formidable man-of-war. But she is now no man-of-war at all. We are not exaggerating the case, or using any extravagant terms of depreciation. It is simply and literally the truth that if a war were to break out this costly ship could not go into action, except on the condition of going straight to destruction. She is a wooden ship, and her enormous armament is composed of guns designed for fighting with other wooden ships, whereas no such vessels would take part in modern warfare. A naval engagement in the Mediterranean would be fought with iron-clads, which iron-clads, while absolutely impregnable to any gun carried by the *Victoria*, would themselves carry guns which in a few minutes they could send the *Victoria* to the bottom, or convert her crowded decks into blazing shambles. There is not the slightest doubt about this. The very people who now propose to commission this vessel for service have for the last week or two been trying the effect of modern projectiles on a target-ship moored within a short distance of the *Victoria* herself. They must have satisfied themselves, as they have satisfied the public, that a wooden vessel exposed to these missiles is simply exposed to certain and summary destruction, and yet they take one of these wooden vessels and send her to one of the principal naval stations to carry the flag of a British Admiral. The *Victoria* is not one bit stronger than the target-vessel on which the experiments were tried; she is not in the least degree more competent to resist attack, and scarcely more competent to return the fire of an enemy. Perhaps one or two of her 121 guns may be rifled Armstrong's, throwing heavy shells, but the chances of her injuring an antagonist before that antagonist had opened chasms in her defenceless sides are forlorn in the extreme. At the same time, such are the requisitions made upon the several departments by this huge machine that some of the best ships in the Channel squadron must be dismantled to man her; the crews of two of our largest iron-clads would be absorbed in her complement, and the total expenditures upon her in wages, fuel, and stores would probably be not less than £35,000 a year.

Now, as all this is perfectly notorious, as there is not the least disguise or secret about the matter in any quarter whatever, it will be asked with considerable astonishment what such a proceeding can mean. We cannot answer the question on authority, but we suppose it must mean that the accommodation provided for an Admiral and his suite on board a three-decker like the *Victoria* is very superior to that offered by one of the new iron-clads. Our modern men-of-war are splendid fighting ships, but they are not very comfortable vessels. The best of them, we fear, are comparatively uncomfortable, and some of them might be thought, on a fastidious estimate, to be scarcely habitable for any lengthened term of service. They are fitter for the brunt of battle than for ordinary demonstrations of force in time of peace. If war were to come, nothing but iron-clads would serve our purpose, but in the meanwhile we may drop these shells as knights put off their armor and go to sea in undress for the sake of ease and comfort. Even in the Channel squadron the Admiral's flag was carried in a wooden two-decker, though a fleet of iron-clads followed his commands. This we imagine must be the explanation of the affair; at least, we can put no better interpretation on it.

On no hypothesis, however, can we think the proceeding justifiable. Even if it is to be assumed that an Admiral in command should be lodged on board a convenient packet ship rather than a good man-of-war, that would not warrant the employment of the *Victoria*, for she professes to be a man-of-war and not a pleasure yacht, and she will entail enormous charges in a capacity which she can never sustain. If an Admiral for the duties of his office in peace times requires spacious cabins, handsome furniture, and extensive accommodations, better recognize the fact at once and make arrangements accordingly. A good corvette or a roomy old paddle-wheel sloop might be converted into a floating hotel superior to the *Victoria* at a twentieth part of the charge, and without any scandal. The monstrous thing in the present case is that if it is simply for accommodation's sake that the *Victoria* is selected, she is fitted out and dispatched in another character altogether—a character in which she is a mere imposture, but which, nevertheless, makes the most extravagant and inconvenient demands upon the resources of the State. Either the *Victoria* is intended for a fighting ship or she is not. If she is, she is a great deal worse than useless; if she is not, why give her 121 guns, and upwards of a thousand trained seamen.

We are of the opinion that the flag-ship of the Mediterranean fleet should be a fighting ship like all other ships of the squadron. If we maintain a fleet in those waters for any purpose at all, it must be for the purpose of asserting our rights or maintaining our policy by force of arms in case of need. For the most part we may hope there would be no fighting, but we must still be prepared for it. To send to the Mediterranean as part of the British fleet on that station a ship incapable of going into action would be an anomaly as great as sending into garrison at Malta a regiment incompetent to perform military duty. The fleet is on active service, and every vessel in it is presumed to be in fighting order. But if the *Victoria* is really to go out she will be an exception to the rule. Her crew may be admirably disciplined, and she may be in all respects an efficient man-of-war if measured by the standard of ten years since. That standard, however, is no longer applicable, as

every sailor in the fleet would know full well. To take the *Victoria* into action against a modern fighting ship would be simply to make a wanton sacrifice of life. Nor need it be assumed that a first-rate iron-clad would be required to destroy her. Any one of the little iron-plated vessels now afloat, such as even the smaller maritime Powers possess, would suffice to give an account of the British flag-ship. The *Victoria* would not be safe for an hour after the declaration of war; in fact we do not suppose that under such circumstances she would be kept at sea. But this only makes it more extraordinary that she should be sent to sea at all, and present such a spectacle to the eyes of the world as a man-of-war of enormous size, armed to the teeth, making the greatest possible pretensions to fighting power, and yet notoriously incompetent to engage a gunboat. If our iron-clads are at present less commodious than the old wooden ships, that is a defect which the designers of our new iron-clads should be instructed to remedy, but if living in a small cabin is uncomfortable, it is, at any rate, more comfortable than going to the bottom. We can conceive, in short, no justification for commissioning this old-fashioned and now useless three-decker. If all that is wanted is a floating residence for the Admiral, that could be provided far more cheaply, and more effectually, too. If an Admiral's ship should still display the pomp and circumstance of war, that condition is certainly not satisfied by an unserviceable armament and a worthless hull. In short, the flag-ship in the Mediterranean must, on any assumption, be either a pleasure yacht or a man-of-war, but the *Victoria* is neither one nor the other, and will yet cost the country far more than the best specimens of both.

FOREIGN STUDY OF SHERMAN'S MARCH.

[From the *London Times*, Dec. 7.]

THE movement seems, so far as we can judge from very imperfect information, to resemble the celebrated march of NAPOLEON in 1814 to St. Dizier, by which he threw himself upon the communications of the allied armies, then advancing upon Paris, and would, it is said, except for the intervention of Lord CASTLEREAGH, have compelled their retreat at the very moment when the object of all their labors seemed to be within their grasp. In the same way SHERMAN, instead of seeing in the operation of HOOD a necessity to fall back upon his original base of operations, has read it as an invitation to seek a new one, and, instead of falling back on Tennessee and Kentucky in the Northwest, he has turned his face towards the Atlantic, and is marching in a southeasterly direction.

There is a remarkable consent of opinion, probably resting on sure though unavowed information, that the object of the General is principally, perhaps, to destroy the railways which connect the Eastern with the Western States of the federation, and then, dividing his Army into two parts, to attack with one the town of Augusta, situated on the Savannah River, and the seat of the principal powder manufactory of the South, and with the other to advance to the mouth of the river and capture the city of Savannah itself, which, although it was taken by the English in the former revolutionary war, has as yet defied all the efforts of the North to take it by sea.

If this enterprise be brought to a successful termination, General SHERMAN will undoubtedly be entitled to the honor of having added a fresh chapter to the theory and practice of modern warfare. Instances, no doubt, have occurred where a bold General, under the pressure of some insuperable difficulty or the seduction of some irresistible temptation, has abandoned the basis of his operations, and undertaken a long and toilsome march in search of another base. But history also records very few instances indeed where operations of this kind have been crowned with success. The attempt has generally been made in the hope of raising a country disaffected to its existing government, and with prospect of almost entire security if the point sought for can once be reached. General SHERMAN has neither of these conditions in his favor; the country into which he plunges is entirely hostile to him; he can count on no information or assistance of any kind, but must look, on the other hand, for every opposition that can possibly be offered to his advance by a people whose very existence is staked on the alternative of his failure or success. The country through which he is to penetrate is not filled with large towns or populous villages; it is, according to English notions, very thinly inhabited, and there is no reason to suppose that its inhabitants will allow any of the means of subsistence which it is in their power to destroy to fall into the hands of an invader. The railroads which he comes to destroy have rendered almost unnecessary other lines of communication; the country is thickly timbered and intersected with streams and ravines, offering innumerable points where his march may be delayed and his advance harassed; the organization of labor in large plantations, each under the absolute direction of a single chief, is favorable to any scheme that may be devised for throwing obstructions in his path or driving away everything that might contribute to his subsistence. His orders are to devastate and lay waste, and it is reasonable to suppose, without attributing either Spartan fortitude or even Russian self-denial to the inhabitants of Georgia, that they will think it their best policy to anticipate him. There are no roads worthy of the name, and his reliance for facility of transport is said to be on the sandy nature of the soil, which dries up very speedily, and will not, it is thought, be permanently affected by the storms which we may expect at this advanced period of the year. We are not informed whether General SHERMAN takes with him his heavy artillery; nor can we, of course, form the least idea of the amount of resistance, either from regular troops or hastily levied militia, which he has to expect. We can only reason from parallel cases. The assumption of the North seems to be—to use their own simile—that the Southern Confederation is like an egg, possessing, indeed, a hard shell, but when this is once passed, soft and penetrable. Experience has given us more proof of the truth of the first than of the second of these assumptions. There is no doubt that on whatever side it has been attacked, with the single exception of New Orleans, the Confederacy has been proved to have an exceedingly hard shell, much more resembling the armor of a tortoise than the thin covering of an egg. But this proof of

one-half the metaphor can by no means be taken to establish the other half.

We have said that in his invasion of Georgia General SHERMAN has left behind him in the Northwest, General HOOD, who, it is natural to suppose, will not be slow to follow in the footsteps of his retreating antagonist. A few days' delay before Macon or Augusta, or before any of the natural obstacles which must be encountered in a march through a wild and trackless country of between three and four hundred miles, would suffice to bring HOOD, possessed of much better information, up with SHERMAN under circumstances which must almost necessarily place the latter between two fires. The worst of such enterprises as SHERMAN'S is that they allow nothing for the chapter of accidents, proverbially so potent in war, and that the slightest and most unfortunate causes may lead to their defeat and ruin. We had our own experience in the tremendous disaster of Saratoga, undertaken, it might be thought, under auspices far more promising than the expedition of SHERMAN; in the ruin which overtook General BRADDOCK, and in the failure of the expedition against Quebec by the brave American General MONTGOMERY. It will be strange, indeed, if the Army of General SHERMAN should arrive before Savannah, after such a march, conducted under such difficulties, in condition to attack and storm a town so well fortified and so strenuously defended; and, if not, it is difficult to conceive a more embarrassing position than that General SHERMAN will occupy, with a waste and weary Army, a strong town in his front, and an enemy fighting on his own ground in his rear. We do not say that SHERMAN will not overcome all these obstacles. Any one of a hundred contingencies of which we have no knowledge may overthrow all our calculations; but arguing from the usual result of similar enterprises, from the well recognized principles of military art, and from the spirit which the South has never failed to show in less serious emergencies, we cannot see the grounds for that tone of overweening confidence with which the Northern press hails the commencement of an expedition so novel and so hazardous, in which a General abandons one base of communication without, so far as we can see, any very clear or definite idea where he is to find another. We are inclined to agree that the results of SHERMAN'S expedition cannot well be estimated too highly; but we are not at all confident by which of the belligerents that estimate ought to be made.

THE BATTLE OF PITTSBURGH LANDING.

LETTER FROM MAJOR-GENERAL SHERMAN.

Professor HENRY COPPEE, Philadelphia:—

DEAR SIR:—In the June number of the *United States Service Magazine* I find a brief sketch of Lieutenant-General U. S. GRANT, in which I see you are likely to perpetuate an error, which General GRANT may not deem of sufficient importance to correct. To General BUELL'S noble, able and gallant conduct you attribute the fact that the disaster of April 6, at Pittsburgh Landing, was retrieved, and made the victory of the following day. As General TAYLOR is said in his later days to have doubted whether he was at Buena Vista at all, on account of the many things having transpired there, according to the historians, which he did not see, so I began to doubt whether I was at the battle of Pittsburgh Landing of modern description. But I was at the battles of April 6 and 7, 1862. General GRANT visited my division in person about ten A. M., when the battle raged fiercest. I was then on the right. After some general conversation, he remarked that I was doing right in stubbornly opposing the progress of the enemy; and, in answer to my inquiry as to cartridges, told me he had anticipated their want, and given orders accordingly; he then said his presence was more needed over at the left. About two P. M., of the 6th, the enemy materially slackened his attack on me, and about four P. M., I deliberately made a new line behind McARTHUR'S drill field, placing batteries on chosen ground, repelled easily a cavalry attack, and watched the cautious approach of the enemy's infantry, that never dislodged me there. I selected that line in advance of a bridge across Snake Creek, by which we all day had been expecting the approach of LEW. WALLACE'S division from Crump's Landing. About five P. M., before the sun set, General GRANT came again to me, and after hearing my report of matters, explained the situation of affairs on the left, which were not as favorable; still the enemy had failed to reach the landing of the boats. We agreed that the enemy had expended the *furors* of his attack, and we estimated our loss; and approximated our then strength, including LEW. WALLACE'S fresh division, expected each minute. He then ordered me to get all things ready, and at daylight the next day to assume the offensive. That was before General BUELL had arrived, but he was known to be near at hand. General BUELL'S troops took no essential part in the first day's fight, and GRANT'S army, though collected together hastily, green as militia, some regiments arriving without cartridges even, and nearly all hearing the dread sound of battle for the first time, had successfully withstood and repelled the first day's terrific onset of a superior enemy, well commanded and well handled. I know I had orders from General GRANT to assume the offensive before I knew General BUELL was on the west side of the Tennessee. I think General BUELL, Colonel FRY and others of General BUELL'S staff, rode up where I was about sunset, about the time General GRANT was leaving me. General BUELL asked me many questions, and got of me a small map, which I had made for my own use, and told me that by daylight, he could have eighteen thousand fresh men, which I knew would settle the matter.

I understood GRANT'S forces were to advance on the right of the Corinth road and BUELL'S on the left, and accordingly at daylight I advanced my division by the flank, the resistance being trivial, up to the very spot where the day before the battle had been most severe, and then waited till near noon for BUELL'S troops to get up abreast, when the entire line advanced and recovered all the ground we had ever held. I know that, with the exception of one or two severe struggles, the fighting of April 7 was easy as compared with that of April 6.

I never was disposed, nor am I now, to question anything done by General BUELL and his army, and know that approaching our field of battle from the rear, he encountered

that sickening crowd of laggards and fugitives that excited his contempt and that of his army who never gave full credit to those in the front line, who did fight hard, and who had, at four P. M., checked the enemy, and were preparing the next day to assume the offensive. I remember the fact the better from General Grant's anecdote of the Donelson battle, which he told me then for the first time—that, at a certain period of the battle, he saw that either side was ready to give way if the other showed a bold front, and he determined to do that very thing, to advance on the enemy, when, as he prognosticated, the enemy surrendered. At four P. M., of April 6, he thought the appearances the same, and he judged with LEW. WALLACE's fresh division and such of our startled troops as had recovered their equilibrium, he would be justified in dropping the defensive and assuming the offensive in the morning. And, I repeat, I received such orders before I knew General BUELL's troops were at the river. I admit that I was glad BUELL was there, because I knew his troops were older than ours and better systematized and drilled, and his arrival made that certain which before was uncertain. I have heard this question much discussed, and must say that the officers of BUELL's army dwelt too much on the stampede of some of our raw troops, and gave us too little credit for the fact that for one whole day, weakened as we were by the absence of BUELL's army, long expected LEW. WALLACE's division, only four miles off, and from the fugitives from our ranks, we had beaten off our assailants for the time. At the same time our Army of the Tennessee have indulged in severe criticism at the slow approach of that army which knew the danger that threatened us from the concentrated armies of JOHNSTON, BEAUREGARD and BRAGG that lay at Corinth. In a war like this, where opportunities for personal prowess are as plenty as blackberries, to those who seek them at the front, all such criminations should be frowned down: and were it not for the military character of your journal I would not venture to offer a correction to a very popular error.

I will also avail myself of this occasion to correct another very common mistake in attributing to General Grant the selection of that battle-field. It was chosen by that veteran soldier, Major-General CHARLES F. SMITH, who ordered my division to disembark there, and strike for the Charleston Railroad. This order was subsequently modified by his ordering HURLBUT's division to disembark there, and mine higher up the Tennessee to the mouth of Yellow Creek, to strike the railroad at Burnsville. But floods prevented our reaching the railroad; when General SMITH ordered me in person also to disembark at Pittsburgh Landing, and take post well out, so as to make plenty of room, with Snake and Lick Creeks the flanks of a camp for the grand Army of invasion.

It was General SMITH who selected that field of battle, and it was well chosen. On any other we surely would have been overwhelmed, as both Lick and Snake Creeks forced the enemy to confine his movements to a direct front attack, which new troops are better qualified to resist than where flanks are exposed to a real or chimerical danger. Even the divisions of that army were arranged in that camp by General SMITH's order, my division forming, as it were, the outlying picket, whilst McCLELLAND's and PERRYSS' were the real line of battle, with W. H. L. WALLACE in support of the right wing, and HURLBUT of the left; LEW. WALLACE's division being detached. All these subordinate dispositions were made by the order of General SMITH, before General GRANT succeeded him to the command of all the forces up the Tennessee—headquarters Savannah. If there were any error in putting that army on the west side of the Tennessee, exposed to the superior force of the enemy also assembling at Corinth, the mistake was not General GRANT's—but there was no mistake. It was necessary that a combat, fierce and bitter, to test the manhood of the two armies, should come off, and that was as good a place as any. It was not then a question of military skill and strategy, but of courage and pluck, and I am convinced that every life lost that day to us was necessary; for otherwise at Corinth, at Memphis, at Vicksburg, we would have found harder resistance, had we not shown our enemies that, rude and untutored as we then were, we could fight as well as they.

Excuse so long a letter, which is very unusual from me; but of course my life is liable to cease at any moment, and I happen to be a witness to certain truths which are now beginning to pass out of memory, and form what is called history.

I also take great pleasure in adding that nearly all the new troops that at Shiloh drew from me official censure have more than redeemed their good name; among them that very regiment which first broke, the Fifty-third Ohio, Colonel APPEN. Under another leader, Colonel JONES, it has shared every campaign and expedition of mine since, is with me now, and can march and bivouac and fight as well as the best regiment in this or any army. Its reputation now is equal to that of any from the State of Ohio.

I am, with respect, yours, truly,
W. T. SHERMAN, Major-General.

Major-General Meade has lately directed that each division of the Army of the Potomac shall have a separate lot, securely fenced in, for the interment of its dead. All isolated bodies of deceased soldiers are to be disinterred with as little delay as practicable, and re-interred in the burial ground of the division to which they belonged. Durable head-boards, with proper inscriptions, will be placed over all graves. The inscription will give the name, rank, company and regiment of the deceased soldier. Care will also be taken to prevent any inscription becoming obliterated. Friends and relatives of deceased soldiers will thus always be enabled to learn where their bodies have been laid, and, if desirous of doing so, can have them disinterred and transported North.

The following-named officers have been cashiered the service: Captain Gottlieb C. Rose, Co. C, Fourth regiment Missouri volunteer cavalry; Major and Aide-de-Camp M. R. Williams; Captain Ferdinand Hansen, Co. D, Fourth regiment Missouri volunteer cavalry; Captain E. H. Trulan, Second Louisiana mounted infantry; Captain William F. Carlton, Second Louisiana mounted infantry; Captain E. S. Rigney, Co. K, Ninety-ninth United States colored infantry.

ARMY GAZETTE.

REPAIR, &c., OF RAILROADS IN SOUTH CAROLINA AND GEORGIA.

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, December 26, 1864.

Special Orders No. 47.

Brevet Brigadier-General McCullum, Director and General Manager of Military Railroads, will dispatch a party of officers and operatives to take charge of the railroad stock and property captured at Savannah, and, in conjunction with the officers of the Quartermaster's Department in the Department of the South, make all arrangements necessary for their efficient repair and use in the operations in South Carolina and Georgia.

M. C. MATOS, Quartermaster-Gen., Brevet Maj.-Gen.

SENTENCES OF COURTS-MARTIAL.

DISMISSED.

Second Lieutenant Samuel F. Wilson, 62d Illinois veteran volunteers for disobedience of orders.

Second Lieutenant George W. May, 10th Kansas volunteers, for conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline, and conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman (playing cards with enlisted men).

First Lieutenant Robert S. Forbes, 172d regiment Ohio national guards, for exciting mutiny, with loss of four months' pay and allowances.

First Lieutenant Edward B. Austin, 60th regiment New York volunteer engineers, for violation of the 8th Article of War (using contemptuous or disrespectful language toward the President of the United States, &c.), and conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline.

First Lieutenant Alexander C. McKenzie, 8th Michigan volunteers, for conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline, and cowardice—with loss of all pay and allowances now due or hereafter to become due.

Second Lieutenant Corwin J. Holmes, 25th New York cavalry, for conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman, and conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline (borrowing money from enlisted enlisted men of his regiment, and refusing and neglecting to pay the same, and making use of grossly vulgar language when speaking of the wife of an enlisted man in presence of the men of his company).

Lieutenant Colonel H. P. Rugg, 59th New York volunteers, for neglect of duty and disobedience of orders.

Major Gustavus A. Seidel, 7th New York volunteers, for conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman, and disobedience of orders: found guilty of these charges, and also of neglect of duty.

Second Lieutenant George H. Oakes, 1st Maine heavy artillery, for cowardice in the face of the enemy.

Second Lieutenant J. W. Tunison, 109th New York volunteers, for conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman.

Major Hinman Rhodes, 28th Illinois volunteers, for conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman, and disrespect to his superior officer: found guilty of the charges; sentence commuted to a reprimand in General Orders by his Commanding General, and suspension from rank and pay for period of two calendar months.

Captain Samuel A. Lowe, 4th Illinois cavalry, for conduct unbecoming an officer and gentleman, and breach of arrest.

First Lieutenant Samuel W. Dickerson, 5th United States colored heavy artillery, for conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline: sentence commuted to a reprimand in orders from the general commanding the District of Vicksburg.

Second Lieutenant James L. Hardwick, 6th Tennessee cavalry, for neglect of duty, to the prejudice of good order and military discipline (steadily refusing to attend to dress parade after being ordered so to do by his commanding officers), and conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman.

Lieutenant-Colonel C. E. G. Horn, 65th United States colored infantry, for disobedience of orders.

Lieutenant Robert H. Chadbourne, 84th United States colored infantry, for conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman, and conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline—with the forfeiture of all pay that now is or may become due him, and to be confined at hard labor, at such place within the Department as the Commanding General may direct, for the period of one year.

Captain John W. Mignath, 26th United States colored infantry, for disobedience of orders, violation of 24th Article of War, conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline, and conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman.

Captain William F. Lynch, 25th United States colored infantry, for drunkenness.

Second Lieutenant Augustus Kruger, 97th United States colored infantry, for disobedience of orders, contempt and disrespect toward his commanding officer, and tyrannical and capricious conduct—conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline.

CASHIERED.

Assistant-Surgeon John V. De Graze, 35th United States colored troops, for drunkenness on duty, and conduct unbecoming an officer and gentleman (misapplying and appropriating to his own use liquors belonging to the medical department).

First Lieutenant Francis J. Easchus, 97th Pennsylvania volunteers, for drunkenness on duty, absence without leave, and conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman (being grossly intoxicated in the presence of enlisted men).

Second Lieutenant James McWilliams, 97th Pennsylvania volunteers, for drunkenness on duty, and conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman.

Captain Zenas C. Warren, 5th New Jersey light battery, for misapplication of public property, conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman (trading Government horses without authority), and breach of arrest—and to forfeit to the United States all pay and allowances now due or to become due.

First Lieutenant John J. Devlin, 69th Pennsylvania veteran volunteers, for conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline, disobedience of orders, and absence without leave.

First Lieutenant J. S. Steever, 13th Pennsylvania cavalry, for disobedience of orders, violation of the 7th Article of War (breach of arrest), and conduct unbecoming an officer.

First Lieutenant Arthur W. White, Union light guard, Ohio cavalry, for breaking arrest.

Captain Hugh S. Donaldson, independent battalion Minnesota volunteers, for making false muster rolls, and willingly signing muster rolls, knowing they contained false musters.

First Lieutenant Francis A. Young, 20th regiment veteran reserve corps, for drunkenness on duty, in violation of the 45th Article of War, conduct unbecoming an officer and gentleman, and conduct prejudicial to good order and discipline (being grossly intoxicated in presence of officers and enlisted men when detailed for duty with a guard escorting prisoners of war to Elmira, New York, and engaging in a disgraceful fight at a public house).

Second Lieutenant Stephen Graffam, 17th Maine volunteers, for absence without leave, conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline, and cowardice—and his crime, name, and place of abode to be published in at least two papers in the State in which he resides.

Surgeon J. H. Thompson, 124th New York volunteers, for cowardice and conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline—with the loss of all pay and allowances; this sentence, with the crime, name, and place of abode of the delinquent to be published in at least two newspapers of the State in which he resides.

First Lieutenant Dominick C. Brennan, Quartermaster 69th Pennsylvania volunteers, for drunkenness on duty, conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman, and conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline.

Major Henry E. Munson, 210th Pennsylvania volunteers, for drunkenness on duty and absence without leave.

Second Lieutenant Bernhard Loforick, 61st United States colored infantry, for violation of the 45th Article of War (being drunk on duty), and violation of the 45th Article of War (discharging his pistol in camp, contrary to orders).

Captain Sidney Hall, 122d Illinois volunteers, for misapplication of certain articles of clothing belonging to the United States, making false return to the Government of the United States, conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman, and mutinous conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline—and that the money value of one uniform coat, one pair of pants, two pair of socks, and one pair of shoes be stopped against his pay account.

Assistant-Surgeon Julius W. Benson, 7th Indiana cavalry, for drunkenness on duty, absence without leave, and neglect of duty (willfully absenting himself from his regiment at a time when an attack was expected from the enemy).

First Lieutenant Leonard Hein, regimental Quartermaster 65th United

States colored infantry, for drunkenness while on duty, conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman, and disobedience of orders.

Captain E. H. Trulan, 2d Louisiana mounted infantry, for absence without leave, disobedience of orders, and breach of arrest.

OTHER SENTENCES.

Second Lieutenant Walter S. Brown, 135th Illinois volunteers, for conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline (abusing and insulting a citizen): to forfeit the sum of fifty dollars for the use of the General Government, and that he be reprimanded in General Orders by the Commanding General of the District of Central Missouri.

Captain Arthur A. Brandt, 7th New York volunteers, for conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman: to be dishonorably dismissed the service of the United States.

Lieutenant James Berry, 14th Kansas cavalry, for desertion and embezzlement: to be shot to death with musketry, at such time and place as the General commanding the District may direct.

Major Charles H. Chapin, 3d United States colored cavalry, for disobedience of orders, and conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline (gambling): to be suspended from all rank and command for three months, with loss of all pay and allowances during that period.

Assistant Surgeon E. W. Owen, 10th New York heavy artillery, for stealing from the United States, and embezzlement, and defrauding the Government of the United States of the property of the United States: to be dishonorably dismissed the service of the United States, with loss of all pay and allowances due him from the United States, and that the crime, name, and place of abode, and punishment of the said E. W. Owen be published in the *New Regime* newspaper, Norfolk, and in the newspapers of the town of Williamsburgh, Long Island, New York, after which it shall be deemed scandalous for an officer to associate with him.

Captain Richard B. Locke, Assistant Quartermaster United States volunteers, for wrongfully and knowingly disposing of property belonging to the United States, furnished and to be used for the military service of the United States, in violation of the act of Congress approved March 21, 1863: to pay to the United States a fine of five hundred dollars: sentence disapproved, and Captain Locke is, upon the recommendation of the Commanding General Military Division of West Mississippi, dismissed the service of the United States.

Colonel John Ramsay, 8th battalion New Jersey volunteers, for disobedience of orders, and insubordination to the prejudice of good order and military discipline: to be reprimanded in Orders by the General commanding the corps.

First Lieutenant Henry Applegate, 100th Pennsylvania veteran volunteers, for disobedience of orders: found guilty of the charge: to be dishonorably dismissed the service, with the loss of all pay and allowances.

Second Lieutenant James L. Trenor, 113th United States colored infantry, for contempt and disrespect towards his superior officers, conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline, and conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman: to forfeit all pay and allowances due, and be dishonorably dismissed the service of the United States.

Captain George E. Hall, 4th company, 2d battalion veteran reserve corps, for neglect of duty: found guilty of the charge: to be reprimanded in General Orders, and to be suspended from all rank, pay, and emoluments for the period of one month.

Major J. L. Plumley, 98th United States colored infantry, for conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman, and conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline: to be suspended from pay for a period of six months, and to be reprimanded in General Orders by the Commanding General.

Captain E. S. Rigny, 93th United States colored infantry, for mutinous conduct, to the prejudice of good order and military discipline, and drunkenness on duty: to forfeit three months' pay.

First Lieutenant Ben. L. Smith, 67th Indiana infantry volunteers, for conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline (making a riotous speech): to be reprimanded in Orders by his Division Commander.

DISMISSALS.

For the week ending December 24, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel John Bowles, 1st Kansas (colored) Vols., to date December 17, 1864, for neglect of duty in not rendering the reports required by paragraph 468, of the Army Regulations: absence without leave, and repeated disobedience of War Department orders, directing him to join his regiment.

Captain W. Angelo Powell, Company A, 1st West Virginia Veteran Cavalry, to date December 17, 1864, for absence without leave, disobedience of orders, and wanton neglect of Government property.

Captain John A. P. Fleming, 54th Illinois Vols., to date December 22, 1864, for inefficiency, worthlessness, and neglect of duty.

Captain H. F. Crossman, 2d battalion, Veteran Reserve Corps, to date December 21, 1864.

First Lieutenant Robert Sims, battery B, 1st New Jersey Artillery, to date November 28, 1864, for absence without leave, having been published officially, and failed to appear before the Commission.

Absence without leave.

Captain John McMenamin, 13th New York Cavalry.

First Lieutenant J. W. McComas, 5th Maryland Vols.

First Lieutenant Thomas Allen, 5th Rhode Island Artillery.

Captain Oscar O. Bowen, 47th New York Vols.

Second Lieutenant George H. Bartram, 183d Pennsylvania Vols.

Disobedience of orders and absence without leave.

First Lieutenant Allen K. Ellsworth, 118th Illinois Vols.

First Lieutenant Charles Green, 1st Missouri Light Artillery, to date December 22, 1864, for worthlessness, and habitual neglect of duty.

Lieutenant Clarence R. Smith, 1st Arkansas Vols., to date December 22, 1864, for conduct unbecoming an officer and gentleman, habitual drunkenness, and maliciously circulating false reports derogatory to the character of the officers of his regiment and the enlisted men belonging to his company, and for inefficiency and incompetency in the performance of his official duties.

DISMISSALS CONFIRMED.

The following named officers of the 15th New York Cavalry, to date November 27, 1864:

Major Albert A. Fitcher.

First Lieutenant and Adjutant John Drought.

First Lieutenant and Quartermaster Charles W. Rogers.

First Lieutenant and Commissary P. D. Byrne.

Captain Jacob Wiley.

First Lieutenant A. D. Westervelt.

First Lieutenant John Glass.

First Lieutenant Cornelius Van Gilder.

Second Lieutenant W. H. Matthews.

Second Lieutenant Samuel Curran.

Second Lieutenant John Kernan.

Second Lieutenant John Dann.

Second Lieutenant Patrick Crane.

Second Lieutenant Samuel Gilman, 5th United States Artillery, to date December 6, 1864, for continued drunkenness on duty.

The following named officers of the 16th Indiana Mounted Infantry, to date December 6, 1864, for abandoning their command when on an important expedition, and surrendering to or allowing themselves to be captured by the enemy while thus absent:

Captain Columbus Moore.

Captain James Stevenson.

First Lieutenant William Jordan.

DISHONORABLY DISCHARGED.

Captain Erasmus D. Witt, 205th Pennsylvania Vols., from date of muster in, for having tendered his resignation on account of physical disability, resulting from his own imprudence.

Second Lieutenant Philo J. Tuttle, 39th New York Vols., from date of muster in, for having tendered his resignation on the ground of incompetency.

RESTORED TO COMMISSION.

The following officers heretofore dismissed have been restored with pay from the date at which they rejoin their regiments for duty, provided the vacancies have not been filled by the Governors of their respective States:

First Lieutenant George Pidge, 9th New York Heavy Artillery.

First Lieutenant Asa Farnam, 95th Illinois Vols.

NOTICE TO DELINQUENTS.

The following officers, having been reported at the headquarters of the Army for the offences hereinafter specified, are hereby noti-

And that they will stand dismissed the service of the United States unless within fifteen (15) days from Dec. 22, 1864, they appear before the Military Commission in session in Washington, D. C., of which Brigadier-General John C. Caldwell, United States Volunteers, is President, and make satisfactory defence to the charges against them:

For retaining money in his hands belonging to substitutes, and using the same for private purposes.

Captain D. S. Caldwell, 123d Ohio Vols.

Desertion.

Captain James Connor, 124th Indiana Vols.

Disobedience of orders and absence without leave.

Captain Thomas M. Gibson, 33d Missouri Vols.

Absence without leave.

Captain J. W. Day, 1st Indiana Heavy Artillery.
First Lieutenant Augustus W. Hoff, 3d Maryland Vols.
Second Lieutenant George H. Sears, 1st New Hampshire Heavy Artillery.
Second Lieutenant John Baker, 15th New York Artillery.
Captain Casper Wolfe, 15th New York Artillery.
Second Lieutenant David R. S. Wells, 128th Ohio Vols.

EXEMPT FROM DISMISSAL.

The following named officers, charged with offences, and heretofore published, are exempt from being dismissed the service of the United States, the Military Commission instituted by Special Order No. 53, series of 1863, from the War Department, having reported that satisfactory defence has been made in their respective cases:

Captain William P. Jordan, 29th Maine Veteran Vols.
First Lieutenant Edward Freeman, 19th Pennsylvania Cavalry.
First Lieutenant Joel M. Straight, 38th Wisconsin Vols.

NAVY GAZETTE.

REVIEW OF ACTION OF COURT-MARTIAL.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, December 7, 1864.

General Order No. 43.

A Marine Board, consisting of Lieutenant-Colonel Ward Marston, President, and Surgeon Charles Everfield, Lieutenant-Colonel James H. Jones, Surgeon Delavan Bloodgood, and Major George R. Graham, members, was convened at Brooklyn, N. Y., on the 13th of October, 1864, for the purpose of examining such cases as might be referred to it under the 16th and 17th sections of the act approved August 3, 1861, entitled "An act providing for the better organization of the military establishment."

One of the cases referred to the Board for examination and report was that of Captain Edward McD. Reynolds, of the marine corps. The record of the proceedings of the Board in this case having been received at the Department, it appeared that Captain Reynolds was found to be "physically competent to perform the duties of his office," but the evidence exhibited on the record tending to show that he might be disqualified, by other than physical defects, for his position on the active list of the service, the case was remanded to the board for revision and further proceedings, with directions that additional witnesses should be summoned and Captain Reynolds be notified of the re-opening of his case.

After a further examination, the Board returned the record to the Department with the following finding:

"The Board, after mature deliberation on the evidence before it, and availing itself of all the lights within its reach, does find that Captain E. McD. Reynolds is mentally, morally, professionally, and physically fit for the performance of all the duties of his office."

The evidence taken in the case of Captain Reynolds presents the following facts:

In September last, after returning in bad health from service in the South Atlantic Blockading Squadron, he was admitted into the Naval Hospital at New York for dyspepsia, caused by "excessive use of tobacco," and urethritis, caused by "sexual intercourse."

In the year 1860 he was divorced from his wife on the ground of adultery on his part.

The commanding officer of a vessel to which he was attached, in the Pacific station, in the years 1857 and 1858, testified that his moral character was so bad that he declined to introduce him to ladies visiting the ship. The executive officer of the vessel testified to the same effect.

According to the testimony of an officer of high rank in the corps, with whom he had served in Mexico, he was in the habit of going to balls which were not reputable, and dancing all night with improper women in his uniform.

The evidence as to his immoral character and open practice of vice is cumulative.

The defence made in his behalf admits past immorality to some extent; but says "the evidence shows that for the past five years, by exercise of a powerful will, he has turned aside from those courses which might impair his health and strength." This statement, however, is contradicted by the testimony as to the causes of his resorting to the hospital in September last. There is no evidence of reform on his part.

The Department, not desiring to be governed altogether by its own opinion of the finding of the Board as to the moral fitness of Captain Reynolds, submitted the record to the examination of three officers of high rank, who have reported as follows:

WASHINGTON, November 29, 1864.

Sir:—We have carefully examined the record of the Retiring Board in the case of Captain E. McD. Reynolds, of the Marine Corps, and, in our opinion, the finding of that Board is supported by the evidence in the particulars of mental, physical and professional qualifications, but that it is not supported by the evidence in the particular of moral fitness.

"We beg leave to return the record in view herewith."

"Very respectfully, your obedient servants,"

"L. M. GOLDSBOROUGH, Rear-Admiral."

"J. L. GARDNER, Commodore."

"J. ZELLER, Colonel-Commandant, U. S. M. C."

Hon. GIBSON WELLES, Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C."

The record in this case could not a second time have been remanded to the Board without seeming to indicate to the members of it a finding which their own moral perceptions did not point out to them after reiterated and mature deliberation; nor can the finding as it is approved without raising doubts, of injurious tendency, whether any degree or species of immorality would hereafter be considered as unfitting an officer of the Marine Corps for continuance and advancement in it; nor, after such a result, can Captain Reynolds be permitted to remain in the corps a sanctioned example or model for the numerous young officers now attached to it. Captain Edward McD. Reynolds is therefore dismissed from the service, and will, from this date, no longer be regarded as an officer of the Marine Corps.

Lieutenant-Colonel Ward Marston, the President of the Board, and Surgeon Charles Everfield, Lieutenant-Colonel James H. Jones, Surgeon Delavan Bloodgood, and Major George R. Graham, members of the Board, will be respectively placed on furlough for the term of three months, each from the 16th instant.

GIBSON WELLES, Secretary of the Navy.

REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE.

ORDERED.

Paymaster James D. Murray to the *Princeton*, and also as Paymaster of the Naval Asylum.

Paymaster John G. Gulick to transfer the public stores accounts and money in his charge as Paymaster of the *Princeton* and Naval Asylum, and to regard himself as Paymaster of the Navy Yard and Station at Philadelphia, Pa.

Captain Theodore P. Greene to command the *Richmond*.

Lieutenant William H. Barton to the *Lackawanna*.

Lieutenant-Commander Charles S. Norton to the *Richmond*.

Chief Engineer George E. Johnson to duty at Chester, Penn., under the direction of Rear-Admiral Gregory.

Second Assistant Engineer Philip to the *Dictator*.

Assistant Paymaster G. F. D. Barton to the *St. Louis*.

Chaplain George Jones to the Navy Yard Washington.

Gunner Franklin A. Graham to ordnance duty at New York.

Paymaster T. M. Taylor to duty in paying off the officers and others under Rear-Admiral Gregory's command.

DETACHED.

Second Assistant Engineer Alfred S. Brower from the *Dictator*, and placed on sick leave.

Lieutenant-Commander Greenleaf Cilley from the North Atlantic Squadron, and placed on leave.

Second Assistant Engineer, Joseph Hoops from the *Passaic*, and ordered North.

Commodore William Smith from the command of the Navy Yard, Pensacola, Fla., and placed on leave for three months.

Second Assistant Engineer Richard M. Hodgson from the West Gulf Squadron, and placed on sick leave.

Lieutenant-Commander Charles J. McDougal from the East Gulf Squadron, and ordered to Mare Island, California, for the command of the *Camanche*, on the reporting of his relief.

Lieutenant-Commander Edward Terry (on the reporting of his relief) from the *Richmond*, and ordered North.

Captain Thornton A. Jenkins (on the reporting of his relief) from the command of the *Richmond*, and ordered North.

Acting Ensign Charles J. Barclay from the *Wachusett*, and a leave for two weeks granted him.

Boatswain Isaac T. Choute from the *Richmond*, and waiting orders.

Paymaster James Hoy, Jr., from special duty under Rear Admiral Gregory.

Second Assistant Engineer William J. Montgomery from the *Onondaga*, and placed on sick leave.

RESIGNATIONS ACCEPTED.

Midshipman James S. Tomkins, of the Naval Academy.

Midshipman F. P. Abercrombie, of the Naval Academy.

Gunner H. W. Fitzgibbon, on the reporting of his relief.

DROPPED FROM THE LIST OF MIDSHIPMEN.

Midshipman Charles C. Hoyt, of the Naval Academy.

VOLUNTEER NAVAL SERVICE.

ORDERED.

Acting Master Michael Hickey, to the Mississippi Squadron.

Acting Master's Mate E. N. Wild, to the Mississippi Squadron.

Acting Assistant Paymaster J. M. Altaffer, to the West Gulf Squadron.

Acting Assistant Paymaster C. C. Brinkerhoff, to the West Gulf Squadron.

Acting Volunteer Lieutenant B. C. Dean, to command the *Gem*.

Acting Second Assistant Engineer Robert Whitehill, Jr., to the *Winoski*.

Acting Third Assistant Engineer Lucius Harlow, to the *Peoria*.

Acting Third Assistant Engineer Thomas Campbell, to the *Peoria*.

Acting Third Assistant Engineer Edward T. Beardsley, to the *Winoski*.

Acting Second Assistant Engineer Thomas Fitzgerald, to the *Winoski*.

Acting Assistant Paymaster Thomas F. Houghton, to the *Sophronia*.

Acting Assistant Paymaster D. W. Van Houten, to the Mississippi Squadron.

Acting Second Assistant Engineer Isaac Johnson, to the *Cambridge*.

Acting Third Assistant Engineer Christopher McCormick, to the *Cambridge*.

Acting Assistant Paymaster C. D. Mansfield, to the *Aroostook*.

Acting Assistant Paymaster F. F. Hastings, to the *State of Georgia*.

Acting Second Assistant Engineer James F. Powers, to the West Gulf Squadron.

Acting Master's Mate H. D. Baldwin, to the *Peniwinkle*.

DETACHED.

Acting Ensign G. B. Mitchell, from the Potomac Flotilla, and his appointment revoked.

Acting Second Assistant Engineer William A. Leavitt, from the *Wyoming*, and ordered to the *Napa*, at Wilmington, Del.

Acting Third Assistant Engineer George C. Rogers, from the North Atlantic Squadron, and granted a leave for three weeks.

Acting Assistant Paymaster G. N. Simpson, Jr., from the *Louisiana*, and ordered to settle his accounts.

Acting Master L. W. Hill, from the *National Guard*, and ordered to the East Gulf Squadron.

Acting Master Charles Potter, from the command of the *National Guard*, and ordered to the West Gulf Squadron.

Acting Master H. Clay Wade, from the command of the *Gertrude*, and ordered North on the reporting of his relief.

Acting Ensign William A. Beattie, from the *Surflower*, and ordered North on the reporting of his relief.

Acting Volunteer Lieutenant H. S. Wetmore, from the North Atlantic Squadron, and placed on sick leave.

Acting Third Assistant Engineer Jarvis B. Edson, from the *Fah-Ke*, and ordered to the *Cambridge*.

Acting Assistant Paymaster L. C. Tripp, from the *Olney*, and ordered to the *Governor Buckingham*.

Acting Assistant Paymaster E. St. Clair Clark, from the *Aroostook*, and ordered North to settle his accounts.

Acting Ensign James Courtney, from the *Grand Gulf*, and ordered to the *Muscola*.

Acting Volunteer Lieutenant William McGloin, from the *Grand Gulf*, and ordered to the West Gulf Squadron.

Acting Ensign N. Larsen, from the *Muscola*, and ordered to the *Grand Gulf*.

APPOINTED.

Thomas Andrews, of Boston, Mass., Acting Master, and ordered to the West Gulf Squadron.

Dr. J. H. Wright, Acting Assistant Surgeon, and ordered to the Mississippi Squadron.

Thomas G. Cartwright and John E. Johnston, Acting Master's Mates, for special duty at the Washington Navy Yard, D. C.

Daniel Berrey, Acting Second Assistant Engineer, and ordered to the *Passaic*.

John A. Floyd, Acting Boatswain, and ordered to the *Richmond*.

William Bloat, Acting Second Assistant Engineer, and ordered to the *Peoria*.

Charles Lewis Williams, Acting Third Assistant Engineer, and ordered to the *Winoski*.

Andrew B. Langworthy, Acting Master's Mate, and ordered to the North Atlantic Squadron.

Alfred C. Smith, Acting Master's Mate, and ordered to the Potomac Flotilla.

Burt Hamilton, of Philadelphia, Pa., and Frederick Lewis Hanson, of Brooklyn, N. Y., Acting Third Assistant Engineers, and ordered to the *Fah-Ke*.

Peter M. Beam, Jr., of Brooklyn, N. Y., Acting Master's Mate, and ordered to the Potomac Flotilla.

John S. Bolles, of Hartford, Conn., Acting Master's Mate, and ordered to the *Savannah* for instructions and detail.

George W. Frear, Acting Master's Mate, and ordered to remain in the East Gulf Squadron.

CONFIRMED.

Acting Ensign Mandeville P. Powers, and ordered to instruction at New York.

Acting Ensign Henry J. Dunn, and ordered to instruction at New York.

Acting Ensigns John P. Thomas and P. Thompson, of the *Lebanon*, and ordered to remain on board that vessel.

Acting Ensign Charles J. Goodwin, and ordered to instruction at New York.

PROMOTED.

Acting Volunteer Lieutenant Charles F. W. Behm, commanding the Naval Rendezvous, 172 South street, New York, to Acting Volunteer Lieutenant-Commander, U. S. N.

Acting Master George E. Nelson, of New York, to Acting Volunteer Lieutenant, U. S. N.

Acting Ensign David Organ, of the *Rachel Seaman*, to Acting Master, U. S. N.

Oliver O'Brien, of the *Canandaigua*, to Acting Master's Mate, and ordered to remain on board that vessel.

Acting Master William McGloin, of the *State of Georgia*, to Acting Volunteer Lieutenant, U. S. N.

ORDERS REVOKED.

Acting Master C. M. Marchant, from the *Ohio*, and ordered to the *National Guard*, he will remain on board the *Ohio*.

Acting Assistant Paymaster John Macmahon, to the *Kensington*, and ordered to the *Napa*.

Acting Assistant Paymaster E. M. Hart, to the *Governor Buckingham*, and waiting orders.

Acting Ensign H. E. Tinkham, to the *Restless*, and ordered to the *Bat*.

Acting Volunteer Lieutenant Thomas F. Wade, to the *Fandania*, and waiting orders.

Acting Assistant Paymaster T. F. Houghton, to the *Aroostook*, and is ordered to the *Sophronia*.

RESIGNATIONS ACCEPTED.

Acting First Assistant Engineer F. A. Bremen.

Acting Master's Mate John Williams.

Acting Assistant Paymaster Stephen T. Brown.

Acting Ensign George Kendall, of the *Crusader*.

Acting Master's Mate Joseph J. Tinnell, of the *North Carolina*.

Acting Master's Mate Daniel A. McCool, of the *Arica*.

Acting Assistant Paymaster William B. Crosby, Jr.

APPOINTMENTS REVOKED.

Acting Second Assistant Engineer H. S. Walcott.

Acting Ensign Thomas Tierney, of the East Gulf Squadron.

Acting Master's Mate John A. Seaman, of the Mississippi Squadron.

Acting Master's Mate Charles Jordan, of the *Siren*, Mississippi Squadron.

Acting Master's Mate E. W. Walton, of Hallowell, Me.

Acting Master's Mate E. A. Turpin, of the *Peosta*, Mississippi Squadron.

DISMISSED.

Acting Ensign A. A. Robinson, of the *Bat*.

LIST OF DEATHS.

In the Navy of the United States, which have been reported to the Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, for the week ending December 24, 1864:

De Witt C. Morse, Acting Master's Mate, December 11, U. S. General Army Hospital, Mound City, Ill.

Coleman Sanders, Contraband, August 3, Naval Hospital, Memphis.

Frank Jackson, Seaman, August 5, Naval Hospital, Memphis.

James McHenry, (negro), First Class Boy, August 8, Naval Hospital, Memphis.

Joseph C. Dugan, Seaman, August 21, Naval Hospital, Memphis.

George Allen, First Class Boy, August 21, Naval Hospital, Memphis.

Monroe Street, First Class Boy, September 2, Naval Hospital, Memphis.

Michael Cleary, Seaman, September 19, Naval Hospital, Memphis.

Virgil Smith, Landsman, September 20, Naval Hospital, Memphis.

Thomas B. Taylor, Acting Master's Mate, October 20, U. S. steamer *Mound City*.

John L. Wilson, Ordinary Seaman, October 29, U. S. steamer *Mound City*.

Kli Maker, Landsman, October 29, U. S. steamer *Mound City*.

Edmond Jackson, First Class Boy, May 25, U. S. steamer *Crockett*.

C. D. Harvey, Acting Assistant Paymaster, December 14, New York City.

Frederick E. Brown, Second Assistant Engineer, December 12, New York City.

Kenneth Souder, (colored), First Class Boy, October 24, Bay Point, S. C.

William Tasker, Landsman, December 14, U. S. steamer *At- leghany*.

James R. Weymouth, Landsman, November 20, U. S. steamer *Pembina*.

John Wilson, Seaman, December 2, U. S. steamer *Commodore McDonough*.

John Tablin, Landsman, November 15, U. S. steamer *Lackawanna*.

Lawrence Smith, Captain After Guard, October 29, U. S. steamer *Princess Royal*.

Jeremiah A. Rickett, Ordinary Seaman, November 17, U. S. steamer *Kickapoo*.

James Duffey, Ordinary Seaman, November 23, U. S. steamer *Hartford*.

Elijah Harris, Seaman, November 23, U. S. steamer *Tennessee*.

Thomas J. McDonald, Second Class Fireman, November 8, Naval Hospital, New Orleans, La.

Jacob Dempsey, Landsman, November 13, Naval Hospital, New Orleans, La.

Thomas Flynn, (colored), Nurse, November 16, Naval Hospital, New Orleans, La.

Moses Jones, (colored), Nurse, November 17, Naval Hospital, New Orleans, La.

Haynes Auburn, Landsman, November 17, Naval Hospital, New Orleans, La.

Francis T. Despond, Marine, November 23, Naval Hospital, New Orleans, La.

Robert Holliday, Coal Heaver, October 29, Naval Hospital, New Orleans, La.

Thomas Alway, Landsman, October 30, Naval Hospital, New Orleans, La.

William Gorman, Landsman, October 31, Naval Hospital, New Orleans, La.

George Duffy, Landsman, December 6, Naval Hospital, Pensacola.

Augustus Ridout, Landsman, December 7, Naval Hospital, Pensacola.

Joseph Morris, Ordinary Seaman, December 19, U. S. steamer *Fort Donelson*.

John Longberry, Seaman, December 20, Annapolis, Md., *Tumseh*.

VARIOUS NAVAL MATTERS.

The prize schooner *Julia*, of Nassau, with an assorted cargo, was captured off Brazos River on the 5th by the United States steamer *Dacota*. She had arrived safely at New Orleans.

Mr. Patrick J. Ford, of New York, lately Naval reporter of the New York press, died a few days since at the insane hospital on Blackwell's Island. He was at one time a member of the marine corps, and served a cruise on the steamer *Savannah* off the coast of Brazil.

On Saturday last, the new gunboat *Spyres* made her official trial trip, which proved very satisfactory to all concerned. This vessel is a sister vessel to the <

of cotton, and the schooner *Peepo Day*, with seven or eight bales of cotton. The *Sorts* was captured while endeavoring to run the blockade to Anclote Keys, Fla.

The *Narcissus*, which was destroyed by a torpedo in Mobile Bay on the night of the 7th inst., was a purchased steamer, and was fitted at New York for Admiral Farragut's squadron in the early part of the year. She sailed from the Brooklyn Yard on the 2d of February, 1864. The *Narcissus* was a screw tugboat of 161 tons, and carried a battery of two guns. The casualties by this accident were very small, considering that the steam from the boiler escaped so freely. Only three persons were scalded—two severely, Samuel Noelan, quarter gunner, and George Cassey, seaman.

The following is a list of the vessels now repairing at the Boston Yard:—*Circassian*, *Chimo*, *Wachusett*, *Dacotah*, (in the dry dock), *Kearsarge*, *Nippon*, *Tullahoma*, *National Guard*, *Connecticut*, *Paul Jones*, and *Mahaska*. The unexploded shell has been removed from the sternpost of the *Kearsarge*, and she will soon be ready for sea. The vessels building at the Yard are as follows:—*Ammonoosuc*, *Pompanoosuc*, *Kewadin*, *Guerrero*, *Manitou*, *Nantasket*, (sloop-of-war); and *Quinsigamond*. The last named is an iron-clad Monitor, and will be a more formidable vessel than the *Monadnock*, as she will be more than twice as large. She will have two immense turrets with iron plating fifteen inches thick. She is to have six inches of iron on her sides and three on her deck.

There is nothing of importance to report this week at the Brooklyn Navy Yard. Only one vessel, the *Hybiscus*, has come in, and the bark *Gemsbok* is the only departure. The force of men at work, however, is nearly as great as before the late reduction. The energies of the Yard are devoted to finishing the *Kalamazoo* and *Madawaska*, which are well advanced, and the *Moshella* and *Quinebau*, the frames of which are not yet complete. Besides these there are a number of purchased blockade runners and other vessels undergoing alterations, and work never flags. There are two supply steamers up for an early departure—the *Neberon* for Fortress Monroe and the *Fort Morgan* for Mobile.

At the Western Naval Station, Mount City, Illinois, every department is busy, though there are fewer boats at the levee than usual. The excitement at Nashville has drawn all the light draughts belonging to the upper divisions of the squadron into the Cumberland River. At last, Admiral Lee was at Clarksville, Tenn., with his flag on the *Cincinnati*, a splendid iron-clad. The *Black Hawk* was at Smithland, Ky. The iron-clad *Pittsburg* and veteran *Lexington* arrived from below and left for the Cumberland on the 18th inst. The *Osgood* which was grounded on a bar near Helena, last May, while in charge of Lieutenant-Commander Selfridge, has at last floated off and is here being repaired. The Naval General Court-Martial which was in session at the marine barracks, adjourned on the 14th inst. Captain A. M. Pennock, long connected with the squadron, has been relieved by Commander J. W. Livingston and is now on duty with the Naval commission. The smallpox is prevailing in the town to a great extent, but as yet few cases are reported afloat. The steamers *Pawpaw*, *Naumkeag*, *Robb* and *Myrtle* are undergoing repairs.

LETTERS from Panama dated Dec. 16th, reports that the United States steam sloop-of-war *Lancaster*, bearing the flag of Rear-Admiral George F. Pearson, United States Navy, commanding the United States Naval forces in the Pacific ocean, was to sail the following day for Callao, to watch the Spanish Peruvian trouble. The United States steamer *Saginaw*, Commander Hopkins, sailed on the 6th inst. for San Francisco, via Acapulco, having on board the seven pirates captured on board the *Salvador*, who will be turned over to the custody of the military authorities on her arrival. They will be put on Alcatraz Island. A distressing accident occurred on board the *Saginaw* shortly after she had left port. The gunner's mate, while cleaning small arms, snapped a cap on an Enfield rifle that was supposed not to be loaded. The piece went off, the ball passing through the deck, striking Acting Ensign J. H. Brockway in the arm, shattering the bone and lacerating flesh and muscles. The ship at once put back, and on arrival a consultation of surgeons was held and amputation determined upon, which was at once performed, but the wounded man gradually sank from loss of blood and the great shock, and expired the next morning. His remains were interred with proper ceremonies on the Island of Hamonco. The *Saginaw* sailed again on the 7th.

The following is from the Philadelphia *North American*:—"The condemned Monitor *Tunxis* will, after all, prove a valuable ship. She is now hauled out upon Cramp & Son's wharf, and the defects in her construction are all in course of remedy. It was a titanic task, this hauling from the water of a huge iron-clad of sixteen hundred tons weight. To perform it required a great deal of mechanical skill. Three hundred and twenty-five men, with five 'crabs,' performed the work, which was accomplished up 'ways' inclined an inch to a foot, and without an approximation to an accident of any kind. It is the first time in this country that such a feat has been performed upon 'greased ways,' and Philadelphia has another feather in its cap in consequence. The alterations are important. The solid decks are being taken off and the hull raised twenty-two inches. The former will then be replaced. In her previous condition the *Tunxis* drew so much water as to render her valueless. In three months she will be again afloat, and a match for the *Fasco*, which is also being altered at the same yard. The *Fasco* was another failure. Of the twenty light-draft Monitors ordered by the Government the same mistakes in construction were made. Some of them have been altered into torpedo boats, with one 8-inch gun on their bows. The *Nappa*, the first to be so metamorphosed, is now at the Navy Yard, just finished. The *Fasco* and *Tunxis* will be as valuable when finished as the Government expected them to be when first ordered. The builders will alter the rest of them at their own expense."

The U. S. S. *Chocura*, off Galveston, Texas, has had much success lately in capturing prizes, having taken six within eight weeks, and run one ashore. One had 221 bales of cotton. The rest were inward bound with cargoes of iron, steel, blankets, medicines, cigars, &c. The one destroyed had liquors. The total value of these vessels is estimated at over \$300,000, and their names and the date of their capture are as follows:—Oct. 12th, off Aransas, British schooner *Louisa*; Oct. 28th, in company with *Sciota*, off Velasco, British schooner *Cora Snyder*; Nov. 24th, off St. Bernard River, near Velasco, a large schooner run ashore; Dec. 4th, off Velasco, Rebel schooner *Lovoo*; 221 bales cotton; Dec. 5th, off Velasco, British schooner *Julia*; Dec. 6th, off Velasco, British schooner *Lote Hurley*; Dec. 7th, in company with the *Princess Royal*, off St. Louis Pass, British schooner *Alabama*. The correspondent who sends us these facts says:—"The steamer *I. K. Davis*, recently taken off Rio Grande by the *Leon Smith*, is in Matagorda Bay, minus coal and loading with cotton. The *Sachem* ran the blockade of Sabine Pass and reached Vera Cruz some time since. There is also another steamer at Pass Cabello said to be the *Fannie*. The *Rasca* has been taken and destroyed several schooners inward bound—one being the schooner *Carrie Mair*, owned by A. S. Mair, of Montreal. The *Leto Hurley* was owned by the same firm. The trade (contraband) is very

active on this coast. The health of this division is good—the vessel, composing it being now as follows:—*Lackawanna*, (flagship of division) Captain George F. Emmons; *Bienville*, Commander J. R. M. Mulany; *Seminole*, Commander A. G. Clary; *Pocahontas*, Lieutenant-Commander M. P. Jones; *Penobscot*, Lieutenant-Commander A. E. K. Benham; *Rasco*, Lieutenant-Commander George Brown; *Kanawha*, Lieutenant-Commander B. B. Taylor; *Chocura*, Lieutenant-Commander P. W. Meade; *Penguin*, Lieutenant J. R. Beers; *New London*, Acting Master Lyman Willis; *Pembina*, Lieutenant-Commander J. G. Maxwell; *Princess Royal*, Commander M. B. Woolsey; *Virginia*, Lieutenant ——. An exchange of prisoners takes place to-morrow (Dec. 12th). The Army transport *Clinton* has gone into Galveston harbor for that purpose. The steamers now engaged running the blockade from Havana to this coast are the *Susanna*, *Dinkigh*, *Triton*, *Watson*, *Marie*, *Fannie*, and one they call the *Louise*, (so slow is she). They manage most successfully but they will ultimately come to grief. The *Chocura* also captured, 3d of May last, the schooners *Agnes* and *Frederic* both loaded with cotton, 250 bales.

OFFICIAL DISPATCHES FROM MR. STANTON.

WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON,
December 28, 8 P. M.

To Major-General Dix, New York:

A dispatch has been received this evening by the President from General Sherman. It is dated at Savannah, on Thursday, the 22d inst., and announces his occupation of the city of Savannah and the capture of one hundred and fifty guns, plenty of ammunition, and about 25,000 bales of cotton. No other particulars are given.

An official dispatch from General Foster to General Grant, dated on the 22d instant, at 7 P. M., states that the city of Savannah was occupied by General Sherman on the morning of the 21st, and that on the preceding afternoon and night, Hardee escaped with the main body of his infantry and light artillery, blowing up the iron-clad and the Navy Yard. He enumerates as captured 800 prisoners, 150 guns, 13 locomotives, in good order, 190 cars, a large lot of ammunition and materials of war, three steamers, and 33,000 bales of cotton. No mention is made of the present position of Hardee's force, which had been estimated at about 15,000.

The dispatches of General Sherman and General Foster are as follows:

SAVANNAH, GA., December 22.

To His Excellency, President LINCOLN:

I beg to present you as a Christmas gift, the city of Savannah, with one hundred and fifty heavy guns and plenty of ammunition, and also about twenty-five thousand bales of cotton.

(Signed), W. T. SHERMAN, Major-General.

STEAMER GOLDEN GATE, SAVANNAH RIVER,

Thursday, December 22, 7 P. M.

To Lieutenant-General GRANT and Major-General H. W. HALLACK: I have the honor to report that I have just returned from General Sherman's headquarters in Savannah.

I send Major Gray of my staff as bearer of dispatches from General Sherman to you, and also a message to the President.

The city of Savannah was occupied on the morning of the 21st. General Hardee, anticipating the contemplated assault, escaped with the main body of his infantry and light artillery, on the morning of the 20th, by crossing the river to Union Causeway, opposite the city. The rebel iron-clads were blown up, and the Navy Yard was burned. All the rest of the city is intact, and contains twenty thousand citizens, quiet and well-disposed.

The captures include eight hundred prisoners, one hundred and fifty guns, thirteen locomotives in good order, one hundred and ninety cars, a large supply of ammunition and materials of war, three steamers and thirty-three thousand bales of cotton safely stored in warehouses. All these valuable fruits of an almost bloodless victory have been, like Atlanta, fairly won.

I opened communication with the city with my steamers to-day, taking up what torpedoes we could see, and passing safely over others. Arrangements are made to clear the channel of all obstructions.

(Signed), J. G. FOSTER, Major-General.

The Richmond papers of yesterday state that on the 23d twenty-six vessels of the Wilmington expedition had re-appeared. The dispatch of General Bragg, as published in the Richmond papers, is as follows:

WILMINGTON, Friday, December 23.

"Twenty-six vessels of the Federal fleet re-appeared this morning. There has been no change since last dispatch."

This is the latest intelligence received from that expedition.

(Signed), EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON,

Tuesday, December 27, 1864, 10 P. M.

Major-General Dix, New York:

The following extracts from Richmond papers of to-day, have been forwarded to the Department by General Grant:

WILMINGTON, N. C., December 25, 1864.

"The enemy's fleet, over 50 vessels, including two monitors, several armed vessels, and many heavily armed frigates and sloops-of-war, made a furious attack on Fort Fisher about 1 o'clock yesterday, and kept up an average fire of 30 shots per minute until night. Our loss is 23 wounded."

"The attack was renewed at 10 o'clock this morning and has been very furious and continuous. No report of casualties to-day. Colonel Lamb, who is in command of the fort, replied to the enemy's fire slowly and deliberately."

"The enemy, under cover of the heavy fire, landed about three brigades 2½ miles above Fort Fisher. They were immediately engaged by a smaller force. The enemy held the ground at night."

SECOND DISPATCH.

WILMINGTON, N. C., December 26.

"The enemy's infantry attacked Fort Fisher late last night. They were repulsed with considerable loss. There was heavy rain and wind through the night. Prisoners report the Twenty-fourth corps of the Yankee Army present under Butler."

EDITORIAL.

WILMINGTON.—From our Wilmington dispatches it will be seen that the Yankee fleet attacked Fort Fisher about one o'clock P. M. on Saturday, and bombarded it heavily until daylight, renewing the bombardment at ten o'clock on Sunday morning, and continuing it throughout the day; that under cover of the fire of the fleet the enemy landed an infantry force above Fort Fisher which attacked this fort on Sunday night, and was repulsed. Fort Fisher is situated on a sand spit on the right bank of the Cape Fear River at its mouth twenty miles below Wilmington. The enemy, we presume, reached their position above the fort, not by passing up the river where they would have been obliged to run the gauntlet of the guns both of Fisher and of Caswell on the left bank, but by landing on the beach east of the mouth of Cape Fear River. The enemy having effected a lodgement above the fort is a serious matter. It will cost double the force to dislodge him that would have prevented his landing."

EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON,

Tuesday, Dec. 27, 1864.

To Major-General Dix:

Dispatches from General Thomas represent him still in pursuit of Hood's broken and disorganized force.

HEADQUARTERS, PULASKI, TENN., Dec. 26, 1864.

Major-General H. W. HALLACK, Chief of Staff:

I have received the following dispatch from General Wilson:

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,

BEYOND PULASKI, Dec. 25, 1864.

"There seems to be little doubt that the Rebels have gone to Bainbridge, eight miles above Florence, fearing a flank movement from Stevenson, Ala. Two corps, Stewart's and Lee's, went by this road—the Florence road—to Lexington. Cheatham went toward Lawrenceburg, striking the old military road eight miles below Lawrenceburg. The people say the Rebels are suffering immensely. Buford's wound is said to be quite severe. A Mr. Coates says the Colonel commanding the pontoon transportation told him he was going to Bainbridge, and left here on Thursday morning."

"Cheatham's ammunition transportation of fifteen or twenty wagons was abandoned here. The mules were put in to help the pontoons along."

"General Lee was severely wounded in the foot in the fight at Nashville. His corps is now commanded by Stevenson. The Rebels have lost eighteen Generals killed, wounded, and captured

since they started North. They acknowledge sixty-eight pieces of artillery lost."

"JOSEPH H. WILSON, Brevet Major-General." A late dispatch of 6 P. M. 25th inst., states that in pressing the enemy, Harrison's brigade came upon the enemy's infantry, strongly posted in rail breastworks, and so close did he push up that in being compelled to fall back the loss of one gun was involved. The position was however taken ten minutes afterward, but the enemy had run the gun off. The Rebel force was eight brigades of 500 or 600 men. General Wood, commanding the Fourth Corps, is in support of General Wilson, and both will continue the pursuit zealously.

"I have heard from Steadman to-day. He disembarked his troops from cars at Limestone Creek, seven miles from Decatur, and was marching on that place at 7 A. M. to-day."

"GEO. H. THOMAS, Major-General Commanding." The Department has not received from Savannah any reports except the telegrams of General Sherman and General Foster, already published.

EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON,

Tuesday, December 27, 1864.

To Major-General Dix:

The following extracts from Richmond papers of this day are forwarded by Lieutenant-General Grant:

"An official dispatch from General Beauregard, dated December 25, and received yesterday states that General Hardee reports that a force of the enemy's infantry, artillery and cavalry, has moved from Savannah toward Altamaha River. General Hardee has made a proper disposition to check the column. Its object is probably to destroy the Savannah, Albany and Gulf Railroad, its depots, &c. "No report has been received from General Hood's army since the 28th of November."

EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON,

December 28, 10:30 P. M.

Major-General Dix, New York:

The following extracts from Richmond papers of to-day have been received by the Department:

FROM WILMINGTON.

The following official dispatches were received last night:

WILMINGTON, December 27—6 P. M.

To His Excellency, the President of the Confederate States:

The enemy has re-embarked under the cover of his fleet. His movement is not developed. I have visited Fort Fisher, and find the damage slight, excepting the buildings not necessary for defense. Only two guns were disabled. The marks remaining indicate that the bombardment was very heavy. Major-General Whiting, commanding the defenses at the mouth of the river; Colonel Lamb, commanding the fort, and the officers and men comprising the garrison, deserve especial commendation for the gallantry, efficiency and fortitude displayed under very trying circumstances."

(Signed), BRAXTON BRAGG.

FROM SOUTHWESTERN VIRGINIA.

The Lynchburg *Virginian* has the following additional in relation to the capture of the salt works, announced officially yesterday: "We had been led to hope that these important works were safe. But the source from which the report of their capture comes leaves us no room to doubt its correctness. They were occupied by the enemy on Tuesday, the 20th, and held by them, as is stated, until Thursday, when the Yankees retreated toward Bristol. We learn that the place was held by about two hundred reserves, under Colonel Preston, the most of whom escaped capture. The works are reported to be but little damaged, and we understand from persons who have visited them since the occupation of the enemy, think they can be put in working order again by the first of February. A large quantity of salt already gotten out was destroyed, and all the outbuildings at the place were burned. Several pieces of artillery were also captured by them, but they got but little else of any kind. General Breckinridge was at last accounts, at Baxtonville, preparing to follow the enemy on his retreat. A brigade continued skirmishing with the rear guard. No further fighting has taken place than that already reported. A gentleman who passed over the railroad from Bristol to Glade Spring after the enemy advanced, says the bridges between these places are all burned, but the track is uninjured."

EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON,

Dec. 28—10:30 P. M.

To Major-General John A. Dix, New York:

The following extracts from the Richmond papers of to-day have been received by the Department:

"The latest official advices from Georgia indicate that Sherman has already followed up the occupation of Savannah by sending a force of cavalry, artillery and infantry upon an expedition, whose destination can only be guessed at from the direction in which it has moved. These troops are reported to have gone toward the Altamaha River, and we shall no doubt next hear that they have crossed that stream and are moving to Southwestern Georgia, in quest of the prisoners of war who were supposed to be at Andersonville."

"Sherman's programme for his grand campaign northward seems to be no secret. He will start from Fort Royal and move straight for Branchville, the point of junction between the Georgian and Carolina Railroads. He then proposes to follow the main lines of railroad toward Virginia, stealing and murdering as much as he can by the way. All very fine; but if Sherman proposes, Lee disposes."

EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

By special order of the War Department, a Board of Officers, to consist of Major Theodore T. S. Laidley and Major John G. Benton, Ordnance Department; Major Henry Maynadier, 12th U. S. Infantry; Capt. John D. O'Connell, 14th U. S. Infantry; Capt. Josiah S. Kellogg, 1st U. S. Cavalry; First Lieut. J. D. Edie, Ordnance Department, will convene at the Springfield Armory on the 4th of January, 1865, or as soon thereafter as practicable, and at such other place or places, and at such times as the Chief of Ordnance or the senior officers of the Board may direct, for the purpose of examining, testing and recommending for adoption a suitable breech-loader for muskets and carbines, and a repeater or magazine carbine.

THE Russian navy has lost one of its most illustrious veterans, Vice-Admiral ROMANOFF, who died a few weeks since. The Admiral's services dated from the year 1813, and last year he celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of his entering the navy. During the war with Turkey he commanded the rowboat flotilla, and on the conclusion of hostilities he resigned, but almost as soon as the war in the Crimea commenced he again went to sea in command of the steam flotilla stationed in the Gulf of Finland. Finding that his sphere of action there was very limited, he went to Sebastopol, where he signaled himself by his valor during the siege.

THE British war corvette *Scout* has been selected by the Admiralty to have her midship sides protected by means of chain cable, on a plan similar to that adopted by the United States steamer *Kearsarge*, when in action with the *Alabama*.

THE following is a list of additional prizes ready for distribution at the Fourth Auditor's office: Linden, captured 42 bales of cotton; Brazileira, captured the Buffalo; Massachusetts and Brooklyn, captured the Nahum Stetson.

A very valuable record of Boston soldiers during the present war is in process of compilation at the present time, by GEORGE H. CHILD under the direction of the city authorities. The compilation is made from the returns, so far as received from the seat of War through the office of the Adjutant-General of Massachusetts, and comprises the minutest statistical records and returns of every man furnished by the city, from the time of his enlistment to the time of his being mustered out of service, or death. Among the facts given of every man are the residence, time and place of birth, age, occupation previous to enlistment, when mustered into the service, rank, term of service, regiment and company, bounty paid, whether married or single, promotions, if any; whether killed, wounded, or died, with dates and places; whether taken prisoner, returned as missing, deserted, discharged for disability, transferred, and time of mustering out. Careful attention is given in cases of duplicate names, of which many instances occur. Every organization which has been sent from Massachusetts is said to have had one or more Boston men in it. In the year 1863, however, the 34th, 36th, and 37th regiments had no Boston representation. The present year Boston is represented in 60 regiments, 16 batteries, six New York and two Rhode Island regiments, besides several other organizations. It appears that the total number of men furnished by Boston up to November, 1864, so far as they have been gathered from the different descriptive rolls, is over 16,000, including re-enlistments, and those who have joined the Veteran Reserve Corps.

We observe from a recent speech of Lord CLARENCE PAGET, of the British Admiralty, that as the result of an expenditure of nearly £13,000,000 in the last year on the naval establishment, England has now either built, or in various stages of construction, thirty armored ships, each of which cost "nearer half a million than a quarter of a million pounds sterling." Then respecting the turret system, Lord PAGET states that a considerable degree of perfection has been attained, after many interesting experiments. He said: "It gave him sincere pleasure to state that, as far as experience had gone in the working of the turret system, that system was a great success. It had been found that various difficulties, which were anticipated by many, vanished in practice. He would add one more word on the subject. So impressed were the Admiralty with the success of the turrets, so far as they had worked, that they had now under consideration the conversion of one of the large armor-plated ships, which are now in course of construction, into a ship upon the turret system." Like Mr. CORBEN, Lord PAGET quotes from reports of the United States Secretary of the Navy in support of liberal appropriations for Naval purposes.

At the Annual Dinner of the New England Society of New York, Vice-Admiral FARRAGUT responded to a toast, thus: "Gentlemen,—I do not know what your expectations may be of Vice-Admiral FARRAGUT, but you certainly have seen enough of Rear-Admiral FARRAGUT to know that he is not very well qualified to make such a speech as you would be prepared to listen to. But, as I have always said, I am ready to return my thanks for the hospitable, kind, and enthusiastic reception I have always received in this hall. When I had the pleasure of seeing you last I promised then to go abroad and do my best to keep up that sympathetic feeling with your Association in another quarter. I only wish that I could return my thanks as the General has done—by a letter. But we have some odd notions in the Navy, and one is, we measure our shots as we do our prize money. Hence the higher the rank the more responsibility we have. This is the reason why I suppose I am called upon to return my thanks for the compliment to the Navy. I can endorse the sentiment uttered by Mr. BRYANT: 'That the suffering and the blood shed by the people of New England since the war commenced has been great. God knows they poured it out freely.'"

A NEW SPRINGFIELD RIFLE.—The board of army officers, ordered by the War Department at the instance of General Dyer, of the Ordnance Bureau, to assemble here next week, to examine all new inventions in the way of rifles and muskets, and especially those that are loaded at the breech, hold in their investigations and decisions a most important and delicate duty. It is really no less than to discover and fix a model for a new breech-loading musket or rifle, to supersede the present "Springfield musket," as the arm for our infantry service; and the result will mark a new era in the history of the United States army here, of gun making in America, and in the efficiency of our armies. Major LAIDLEY, the new superintendent of the armory, is the head of the commission. We give a correct list of the commission, whose proceedings will be awaited with much interest, alike in the army, the navy, and by the public at large; Major T. S. LAIDLEY, Ordnance; Major James G. BENTON, Ordnance; Major JOHN D. O'CON-

NELL, Infantry; Major HENRY E. MAYNARD, Infantry; Captain I. H. KELLOGG, Cavalry; Captain T. F. ROSENBOUGH, Cavalry; Captain L. R. EDIE, Ordnance.—[Springfield Republican, December 27.]

THE Maine Farmer understands that the War Department have issued special orders prohibiting the exportation of hay from that State, except for Government account. The immense supplies of hay required for the forage of our armies can now only be obtained by preventing its shipment out of the country, and if need be its summary impressment and appropriation for the use of the Government. The railroad and steamboat companies have been expressly notified to this effect. The Government will purchase all the hay not needed for consumption in the State, paying therefor a fixed rate per ton. We learn that several large lots in process of shipment for Europe was taken possession of last week in Bath and Portland by the Government officials, and immediately forwarded to the army. The price paid by the Government is \$26 per ton for common pressed hay and \$32 for better pressed hay, the latter being preferred for transportation.

THE advertisement of Mr. A. MORTON, in another column, entitled "The Pen is mightier than the Sword," is worthy the attention of all who are in want of Gold Pens. The Pens manufactured by Mr. MORTON are of established reputation, and are not to be classed with the numerous worthless articles which have flooded the market for the last few years.

MARRIED.

(Announcements of marriages should be paid for at the rate of fifty cents each.)

COSBY-SPENCER.—At St. Paul's Church, Chestertown, Md., on Tuesday morning, December 6th, at half past ten o'clock, by the Rev. James Hubbard, FRANK C. COSBY, Paymaster U. S. Navy, to Miss LOTTIE M., daughter of Samuel W. Spencer, Esq., of Chestertown.

NICODENUS-PETIT.—At Georgetown, D. C., Dec. 27th, by Rev. John Early, President of Georgetown College, Mr. W. J. L. NICODENUS to Miss FANNIE E. PETIT, of the District of Columbia.

MULHOLLAND-DAWSON.—In Philadelphia, on the 25th inst., by Father James E. Mulholland, St. CLAIR A. MULHOLLAND, Colonel 116th Pennsylvania Volunteers, to Miss MARY R. DAWSON.

DIED.

SWIFT.—In Brooklyn, N. Y., on the 27th inst., Dr. WILLIAM SWIFT, U. S. N., aged 50.

MAY.—In New York, on Saturday, the 24th inst., CHARLES A. MAY, late of the U. S. Army, and son of the late Dr. J. F. May, of this city, aged 46 years.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Advertisements of a character suited to the columns of the JOURNAL will be inserted, to a limited extent, at twenty-five cents a line each insertion. Advertisers are requested to make their favors as short as possible.

JOSH. H. COUSTY, General Furnisher of Navy Messes and Dealer in Choice Condiments, Canned Meats, &c., No. 118 South Second street, Philadelphia. Orders respectfully solicited.

PROPOSALS FOR
\$200,000
"NEW YORK COUNTY COURT-HOUSE STOCK."

Sealed proposals will be received at the Comptroller's office until Thursday, January 5, 1865, at two o'clock P. M., when the same will be publicly opened, for the whole or any part of the sum of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars of "The New York County Court-House Stock," authorized by Chapter 242 of the Laws of 1864, and by an Ordinance of the Board of Supervisors, approved by the Mayor May 3, 1864.

The said stock is to provide additional means for the construction and completion of the New York County Court-House, on Chambers street. It will bear interest at the rate of six per cent. per annum, payable semi-annually, on the first day of May and November in each year, and the principal will be redeemed as follows, viz:

One hundred thousand dollars on the first day of November, 1869; and
One hundred thousand dollars on the first day of November, 1870.

The proposals will state the amount of stock desired and the price per one hundred dollars thereof, and the persons whose proposals are accepted will thereupon be required to deposit with the County Treasurer the sums awarded to them respectively.

On presenting to the Comptroller the receipts of the County Treasurer for such deposits, the parties will be entitled to receive certificates for equal amounts of the par value of the sums awarded to them, bearing interest from the dates of payments. Each proposition should be sealed and endorsed "Proposals for New York County Court-House Stock," and enclosed in a second envelope, addressed to the Comptroller.

The right is reserved to reject any or all of the bids, if the interests of the County require it.

MATTHEW T. BRENNAN,

Comptroller.
CITY OF NEW YORK—DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE,
COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE,
December 25, 1864.

"THE PEN IS MIGHTIER THAN THE SWORD."

THE GOLD PEN—THE BEST OF ALL PENS, MORTON'S GOLD PENS, THE BEST PENS IN THE WORLD.

On receipt of any of the following sums in Cash, the Subscriber will send by return mail, or otherwise, as directed, a Gold Pen or Pens—selecting the same according to description, viz:

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For 50 cents, the Magic Pen; for 75 cents, the Lucky Pen; for \$1.00, the Always-Ready Pen; for \$1.25, the Elegant Pen; and for \$1.50, the Excelsior Pen. These Pens are not numbered, but correspond in sizes to Numbers 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 6 respectively.

THE SAME PENS IN SILVER-PLATED EXTENSION CASES WITH PENCILS.

For \$1.00, the Magic Pen; for \$1.25, the Lucky Pen; for \$1.50, the Always-Ready Pen; for \$2.00, the Elegant Pen; and for \$2.25, the Excelsior Pen. These are Well-Finished, Good-Writing Gold Pens, with Iridosmin Points, the average wear of every one of which will far outlast a gross of the best Steel Pens; although they are unwarranted, and, therefore, not exchangeable.

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The name, "A. Morton," "Number," and "Quality," are stamped on the following Pens, and the points are warranted for six months, except against accident.

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Long and Medium Nibs of all sizes and qualities Short Nibs of Nos. 4, 5, 6 and 7, and made only of first quality.

The Long and Short Nibs are fine pointed; the Medium Nibs are Broad, Coarse Business Points. The engravings are fac-similes of the sizes and styles.

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For \$1.50 a No. 2 Pen, 1st quality; or a No. 3 Pen, 2d quality; or a No. 4 Pen, 1st quality; or a No. 5 Pen, 2d quality; or a No. 6 Pen, 1st quality; or a No. 6 Pen, 2d quality.

For \$2.00 a No. 3 Pen, 1st quality; or a No. 4 Pen, 1st quality; or a No. 5 Pen, 2d quality; or a No. 6 Pen, 1st quality; or a No. 6 Pen, 2d quality.

For \$2.50 a No. 4 Pen, 1st quality; or a No. 5 Pen, 2d quality; or a No. 6 Pen, 1st quality; or a No. 6 Pen, 2d quality.

For \$3.00 a No. 5 Pen, 1st quality; or a No. 6 Pen, 1st quality; or a No. 6 Pen, 2d quality.

For \$3.50 a No. 6 Pen, 1st quality; or a No. 6 Pen, 2d quality.

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The contract will be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, the right being reserved of rejecting the lowest bid if it be deemed exorbitant.
The usual guarantees will be required, and the contract will be dated the day the notice of acceptance is given.

Printed schedules and instructions can be obtained by application to the Bureau.
Proposals must be directed to the "Chief of the Bureau of Steam Engineering, and endorsed 'Proposals for Iron,' that they may be distinguished from other business letters.

The following are the classes required at the respective Navy Yards:

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36 plates Boiler Iron, 7 1/2, 46 by 98 inches.	
30 do do 3-8, 84 by 98 do	
32 do do 1-2, 43 by 98 do	
32 do do 1-2, 43 by 100 do	
48 do do 3-8, 30 by 110 do	
12 do do 2-8, 30 by 128 do	
35 do do 5-16, 40 by 98 do	
16 do do 7-16, 35 by 109 do	
16 do do 8-8, 39 by 109 do	
16 do do 6-16, 48 by 109 do	
24 do do 6-16, 46 by 86 do	
32 do do 3-8, 34 by 46 do	
32 do do 3-8, 28 by 45 do	
12 do do 7-16, 61 by 112 do	
6 do do 7-16, 61 by 90 do	
32 do do 7-16, 43 by 43 do	
32 do do 5-16, 43 by 78 do	
24 do do 5-16, 42 by 136 do	
16 do do 5-16, 50 by 56 do	
16 do do 5-16, 48 by 54 do	
16 do do 5-16, 47 by 48 do	
32 do do 7-16, 50 by 114 do	
28 do do 3-8, 20 by 60 do	
12 do do 3-8, 50 by 109 do	
12 do do 5-16, 48 by 109 do	
20 do do 3-8, 30 by 120 do	
12 do do 5-16, 38 by 120 do	

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10,000 pounds best American square bar iron, 3/4-inch.	
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6,000 pounds best American flat bar iron, 2 by 1/2-inch.	
14,000 pounds best American flat bar iron, 2 by 1/2-inch.	
1,000 pounds best American flat bar iron, 1 1/2 by 1/2-inch.	
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4,000 do do 1 1/2 by 11-16 do	
4,000 do do 1 1/2 by 11-16 do	
4,000 do do 2 by 11-16 do	

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much more for the loss of time and the inconvenience
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you retire at night. It will increase the strength and
give vigor and action to the system. A celebrated
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"The men were questioned in regard to the following difficulties noticed with the old accoutrements:-

"First. Did the shoulders or breast become chafed?

"Second. Was there any pain in the stomach from pressure of the box?

"Third. How did the weight of the cartridge-box affect them in comparison with the old?

"Fourth. Could they use their arms with more freedom?

"Fifth. Could they breathe with greater ease, and longer respiration?

"Sixth. Was the box in the way, or uncomfortable lying down?

"To these questions the following answers were given:-

"First. In no case was there any chafing or un-

comfortableness from the straps on the shoulders, no did it make them feel anything like so warm.

"Second. The weight of the box was not felt on the stomach, and no pain.

"Third. That the weight of the cartridge-box was not felt, and that they would rather carry one hundred rounds in that way than forty in the old.

"Fourth. The arms are entirely free, as much as if they had nothing on.

"Fifth. The coat can at all times be thrown open, and the fullest respiration can be obtained, the lungs having free scope.

"Sixth. The box was not in the way, and they could sleep comfortably with their accoutrements on.

"They are far more convenient in action. During the campaign my men were, from the sixth of May until the twentieth, without having their accoutrements off, day or night, but once; no complaints were heard of sore shoulders, breasts or stomachs, and men ruptured found them beyond all comparison easier than the old. The box does not interfere with the handling of the piece. I find that these accoutrements are scattered through this division—men threw away the old, and took these from the dead and wounded on the field. This one thing speaks more for them than any and all I can say."

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